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[JAMES HOLMES, TOOK'S COURT.]

REVIEWS

Visit to Alexandria, Damascus, and Jerusalem. By Edward Hogg, M.D. Saunders & Otley.

We have so recently examined the political and social condition of Egypt and Palestine, that even a companion so agreeable as Dr. Hogg cannot tempt us to a new visit to Alexandria and Jerusalem. But Damascus is as yet an unexhausted subject; the jealous fanaticism that guarded it has only just begun to relax its vigilance, and we shall avail ourselves of this opportunity to inquire into the present condition of this interesting city, and the capabilities of the new commercial mart which has been thus opened to British enterprise.

Damascus occupies a site which nature seems to have predestined for a great city. Its wide and fruitful plain, watered by the seven branches of the blue Barrady; the majestic frame-work of mountains by which the plain is girdled; its glittering lakes, its blossoming shrubs, its equable climate, its geographical position on the high road between Central and Southern Asia, and Europe, must have invited men to congregate there, before the name of history was known. This appears to have been the fact: the date of the foundation of the city is unknown; the very language that supplied it with a name is uncertain, for the Hebrew and Syriac derivations of it are ridiculous. The Arabs, indeed, tell us, that it was the site of Paradise. "They have compared it," says Mr. Hogg, "to a pearl set within a cluster of emeralds; they have extolled it as the mole of beauty on the cheek of nature, and have likened its varied and perennial verdure to the resplendent plumage of the peacock of Paradise;" and he adds, "after every deduction that eastern hyperbole demands, it must be acknowledged, that the contrast of its irrigated and embowered suburbs with the naked barrenness around is strikingly beautiful; nor can the delicious enjoyment of water and shade, in a sultry climate, be duly appreciated in the humid regions of the north. Damascus was certainly a flourishing city in the days of Abraham, and an important commercial mart during the period of Phœnician trade. Subjected to the Israelites during the reigns of David and Jeroboam, it recovered its independence only to fall again under the iron yoke of Assyria. Thenceforward it shared the fate of Western Asia, and was successively subject to the Persians, the Greeks, the Romans, and the emperors of the East. Its glory began to revive on its conquest by the Saracens; when the Arabs beheld it, they exclaimed, that Mohammed's promises to the faithful were fulfilled, and hailed Damascus as one of the Holy cities of Islâm. It was often the residence of the Ommiade and Abbasside Khaliphs: it was there Al Mamûn, the son and successor of Harûn-al-Raschid, held his court; it was there he assembled

the poets, philosophers, and historians, who raised Arabic literature and Arabic science to the highest pitch of glory. The city was again, but ineffectually, besieged in the second Crusade, by Louis VII. and the Emperor Conrad; and the Mussulmans attributed their deliverance to its sanctity, and the possession of the copy of the Koran which had been stained by the blood of the third Khaliph Othman, as he fell beneath the daggers of his assassins: circumstances which deserve to be mentioned, because the traditions respecting them were always quoted by the Damascenes, to justify their ferocious fanaticism.

But no sanctity could save Damascus from the cruel Timûr, who in 1401 made himself master of the city, pretending, after the lapse of seven centuries, to be the avenger of the fourth Khaliph Ali, whose tragical fate was caused principally by the rebellion of the Syrians. This hypocritical charge was the pretext for a general massacre, in which none were spared but the descendants of a family that had bestowed the rites of sepulture on the son-in-law of the Prophet, and some armourers who were sent to improve the manufactures of Samarcand. Fire reduced the capital of Syria to a mass of shapeless ruins, and the beautiful Barrady flowed in solitude. History has not preserved any account of the progressive steps by which Damascus emerged from its ashes, and again took its rank among the cities of the East; but since the commencement of the sixteenth century, it has been regarded as the metropolis of Syria, a sanctuary of Islamism, scarcely inferior to Mecca or Medina. It is generally called in the East, Al Shâm (the Syria), as if the province derived importance solely from its capital.

A great portion of the wealth of Damascus in modern times, arose from its being the great rendezvous of the pilgrims to Mecca, whence it was commonly called the gate of the Kaaba. This circumstance tended greatly to nourish the bigotry by which the city had long been distinguished. In no part of the Turkish dominions were the Sultan's innovations viewed with so much horror, and every fresh arrival of pilgrims brought the account of some new change, to increase the exasperation of the multitude. The guards posted at the eighteen gates of Damascus became more rigorous than ever in exacting the tribute paid by every Christian for admission; no one but a Mohammedan was permitted to enter mounted or armed, or wearing a white turban. To appear within the hallowed precincts in a European dress, would have been a wanton tempting of Providence. M. Poujoulat, † who visited the city in an oriental dress in 1831, informs us—

"Passing through these immense galleries (of the bazaars), I have often heard the Mussulmans utter curses against me, when they recognized me for a Frank by my language; but

our consular agent had given me for a guide a descendant of Mohammed, and I was allowed to pass through respect for the green turban. Nevertheless if I had been surprised carrying arms, I ran the risk of being stoned, for a ghaour is forbidden to appear armed in the Holy City. No European and no Raya (native Christian) would be permitted to purchase powder, ball, or ammunition of any kind. I was told that an Englishman last year, visiting the bazaar, sought to purchase a sabre and dagger. As he wore an oriental dress, and his dragoman spoke for him, the Mussulman merchant sold the arms without scruple: but the traveller happening to address his dragoman in Italian, the merchant discovered his mistake, flung the money at the Englishman's head, and forced him to resign his purchase."

Great was the indignation excited by the intelligence, that the Sultan designed to include Damascus itself in his sweeping reforms, and make it the residence of a European consul. A formidable insurrection ensued, which Dr. Hogg is the only traveller who has yet described:—

"The steps that had been taken to make this place the residence of an English consul, with the knowledge that Mr. Farren had actually arrived at Saïdee, led to the belief that further innovations were contemplated;—that the recently-established governor was the willing agent of the sultan—favourable to the Franks, and the abettor of those perverting institutions which had elsewhere been insidiously introduced. All now was tumult and confusion. Disaffection, secretly fomented by the bigoted Ulemahs, and countenanced by some of the most influential citizens, spread rapidly among the people, and in the month of September [1832] burst into open revolt. The pacha shut himself up in the citadel, where he was closely besieged for several days. His little garrison fired upon the insurgents, who, exasperated to frenzy, refused all terms of accommodation. But provisions at length failing, the besieged—compelled to capitulate—opened the gate, under a solemn promise of personal security to all within.

"The reign of anarchy, however, had commenced; the compact was treacherously broken; the house in which the pacha had taken refuge was forcibly entered during the night, and himself and four of his principal officers savagely massacred before the door. These ferocious savages, with true revolutionary fury, paraded the heads of their victims, the next morning, on pikes through the town, and that of the pacha was finally brought to the gate of the convent where we reside. The trembling monks were forced from their concealment, the head, stigmatized by the mob as that of a kafer (*infidel*), and the friend of kafers, was insultingly thrown before them, and a threat held out, which the payment of a large fine only averted, of having it nailed as a trophy over their door.

"The Serai, in the meantime, was pillaged—the rich embellishments of the interior torn down, and an attempt made to set it on fire. The solidity of the building resisted the destructive element, but the conflagration spread to the adjoining bazaar, and from the construction of the houses, it seems wonderful that any part of the city escaped. For a short time two or three of the principal inhabitants directed this revolutionary movement, but soon losing their in-

† Correspondance d'Orient, Vol. VI.

fluence, Damascus exhibited the strange anomaly of a city, containing a hundred and forty thousand inhabitants, remaining for five or six months without any settled government. The houses of the rich became fortresses, every man carried arms, each relying upon his own courage to protect his family and effects. But more extraordinary still, when the first fury had subsided, no farther attempt at pillage was made, or glaring outrage committed."

Anarchy continued to prevail until Ibrahim Pacha took possession of the city in the following June, and, to the great consternation of the bigots, proved to be farther advanced in liberalism than Mahmood himself;—

"Ibrahim's stay at Damascus was short, his regulations for the security of the town judicious, and his manner to all courteous and conciliating. Our hosts, the Franciscans, did not neglect the favourable opportunity of waiting on him with congratulations. They were most graciously received, invited to take seats on his divan, and, to the astonishment and dismay of their late persecutors, were served with coffee, promised protection, and assured that they should no longer be subjected to vexatious exactions."

Dr. Hogg actually witnessed a Christian festival, celebrated in honour of the toleration established by Ibrahim; and the Damascenes, who had so recently rebelled against the admission of a consul, made no attempt to interrupt this triumph over their bigotry:

"It consisted of a large concourse of young men, of different Christian communities, who were parading, in triumphal procession, their own quarter of the town. Each was supplied with a stick, which he shouldered like a musket. An artificial camel, decorated with flowers and bells, preceded them, numerous small drums regulated their movements, and banners, composed of wreaths of foliage,—a cross conspicuously decorated, and other emblems of liberation, waved in the air. Their countenances were highly animated, their shouts long and loud, nor was that of 'buoni Franki' forgotten. Verses in praise of Ibrahim Pacha were enthusiastically sung,—his valour extolled to the skies, and urged to advance fearlessly to Constantinople, he was cheered with the assurance that his victorious sabre was destined to subdue the world."

Since that period the Christians have openly celebrated the festival of their several churches by public processions; three English warehouses have been established in Damascus; the merchants ride about in their Frank dresses, wearing even that great abomination of pious Moslems, the hat; and Mr. Farren and his family have made the city their residence without any one daring even to murmur.

We shall next proceed to the description of a city thus suddenly brought within the pale of civilization.

Damascus has somewhat the shape of an ancient lyre, and is about five miles in circumference. The houses and palaces built partly of stone and partly of brick, have externally a mean appearance, but within, the mansions of the merchants display all the luxuries of the East. The streets are narrow, except in the vicinity of the governor's palace; but many of them have side paths for the convenience of foot passengers. The bazaars are in general superior to those of Alexandria and Constantinople. They are thus described by Dr. Hogg:—

"These rows of diminutive recesses, around which the articles on sale are invitingly displayed, have small platforms in front, furnished with carpets and cushions. Here sit the proprietors, with their legs crossed beneath them—

neatly dressed—their wares all within reach—and often with customers beside them, in similar postures, smoking or sipping coffee,—auxiliaries in constant requisition during the negotiation of all mercantile affairs.—Barbers' shops, distinguished by small looking-glasses and arabesque paintings,—coffee-houses, and repositories for eatables, were often on a larger scale. Some of the bazaars are wide,—tolerably built,—with lofty roofs,—more frequently they are roughly constructed with timber—old—narrow—dark—shaded above with green branches, or tattered awnings, and kept agreeably cold by constant watering."

As is usual in the East, each tribe has its separate bazaar. The khans or markets for the exchange of merchandize, are still more worthy of notice. The great khan would not disgrace any commercial city in Europe.

"Every part," says Dr. Hogg, "like the cathedral of Florence, is formed in alternate layers of black and white masonry. A noble gothic gateway leads to a spacious square court, with a handsome fountain in the middle of a beautiful arcade of pointed arches. These, enriched with mouldings, terminate above in a group of small domes, constructed in a similar ornamental style. This ample area was filled with a rabble of muleteers, crouching around their disburdened beasts. On the ground-floor were entrances to chambers and magazines, and a staircase led to a gallery and apartments above. At several of the khans we were readily shown fine specimens of oriental manufactures, nor was the civility of the proprietors diminished when told that curiosity, not purchase, was the motive of our visit."

We shall next extract M. Poujoulat's account of the principal traffic carried on in these khans.

"Silks and saddles form the two principal branches of commerce in Damascus. The Arabs of the desert come to purchase saddles and other leather articles of which they have need, and this commerce possesses an importance and activity which nothing can weaken or check. Silk and cotton stuffs, sweetmeats, and dried fruits, are exported to Persia, Turkey, Egypt, and Africa; every day caravans of merchants depart for various countries of the East, and every day caravans arrive. Constantinople, Cairo, and Bagdad exchange their productions for those of Damascus. The caravan from Mecca brings every year to Damascus all the treasures of India and Arabia; the Mussulman pilgrims, though engaged in heavenly contemplation, do not forget the things of earth. The pious visitors of the Kaaba return loaded with cashmires, muslins, coffee-berries, aloes and pearls."

The population of Damascus has been variously estimated from 150,000 to 400,000; the smaller number is probably the more exact. M. Poujoulat has given us a curious statistical table, derived from a census taken by the Turkish government, a short time before its overthrow, which will give a better notion of the commercial importance of the city than any more general description.

"There are reckoned at Damascus 129 tanning establishments, 47 houses for painting stuffs, 22 for printing stuffs, 75 for dyeing stuffs, 120 for dyeing silks, all kept by Jews; 748 shops for stuffs called damasks, 211 spice warehouses, 68 wholesale tobacco stores, 72 saddlers, 11 tent merchants, 47 copper-smiths, 50 iron-smiths, 54 farriers, 70 fur-merchants, 98 lacemen, 140 bakers, 58 flour and corn chandlers, 24 com-merchants, 122 coffee-houses, 32 confectioners, 129 butchers, 124 barbers, 19 armourers; for though Damascus has long since lost its famous manufacture of sabres, the blades fabricated there are still highly esteemed. Continuing my list, I find 71 tailors, 59 public baths, 6 watch-

makers, 6 bookbinders, 6 paper-merchants, 43 shops for pipe-stems, 150 dealers in tobacco and coffee, 4 glass factories, 4 soap factories, 143 weavers; and the public cooks amount to more than 500. * * There is also one fact which alone might enable you to judge of the commerce of Damascus. I visited a very extensive quarter of the city wholly tenanted by workmen exclusively employed in manufacturing packing-cases for the different merchandizes."

Were Damascus a well-known city, we should scarcely have troubled our readers with these details; but it is only within the last three years that it could be visited, except by stealth; and thus bigotry closed against us perhaps the most important commercial mart in Western Asia. Dr. Hogg very justly describes the advantages of opening a trade between Great Britain and the Syrian capital:—

"From its central position, little more than forty miles from the sea, this town is admirably adapted to become the *entrepôt* of an extensive commerce between England and Asiatic Mohammedan states. The annual resort of pilgrims offers a ready channel for conducting such a traffic; and were British capital and enterprise directed to this object, an important outlet might be established for many of our manufactures. As the sacred season approaches, the pilgrims collect in great numbers. All then is activity and movement. They arrive loaded with commodities,—remain several weeks,—make large purchases and exchanges,—and some idea may be formed of the consequence of this assemblage as a medium of commerce, from the circumstance of their camels alone amounting to thirty or forty thousand.

"The vicinity of Damascus yields silk of good quality, and in great abundance. Cotton might be grown to any extent, and the coffee-tree is said to flourish luxuriantly, although its produce, hitherto, has never been turned to advantage. English earthenware, but of the commonest description, is already found here, and suitable articles in china and cut glass, coloured crapes, certain kinds of cutlery, and the finer qualities of spun cotton, to supply native looms, might no doubt be successfully introduced. Other articles of British manufacture would also find a ready market, if the patterns, and taste of the different classes of natives, which never vary, were first ascertained."

We happen to know that the experiment has been tried, and has succeeded. A rapidly increasing trade has been opened between Liverpool and Damascus, and several vessels have left London for the ports of Northern Syria. The articles of export are, cottons, muslins and calicoes plain and figured, cotton handkerchiefs, yarn and twist, &c. The imports are raw silk, said to be of a very superior quality, raw cotton, better than that grown in Egypt, gums, galls, and some miscellaneous articles. Dried fruits, for which Damascus is celebrated throughout the East, have not yet been tried, but we are informed that some chests have been ordered, to ascertain their chance of success in the English market. The horses of Damascus are even more celebrated than those of Arabia; a few have been imported as presents, and by private individuals, but they are unlikely ever to form an article of general commerce.

There is an old Arab proverb, *Shâmi Shâmi*, that is to say, every native of Damascus is a rogue; and with this proverb the Franks consoled themselves when excluded from commercial intercourse with the bigots of the Holy City. We believe that the imputation is unmerited. The Damascenes

were fanatical, perhaps beyond parallel; but dishonest, taken as a body, they certainly are not. M. Poujoulat met a Greek merchant who had been for several years engaged in the Damascus trade, and he acknowledged that he had no reason to complain of fraud; and we have seen a letter from a merchant in the East, declaring that in rectitude and punctuality the merchants of Damascus surpass their brethren in Alexandria and Smyrna.

We have passed over the Christian antiquities of Damascus,—“the street called straight,” where St. Paul resided after his conversion—the part of the wall from which he was let down in a basket—and the residence of Ananias. More unlikely things have come to pass in our days than the departure of a steamer from the Tower-stairs for Beirut, the harbour of Damascus; and we may yet have to review numerous accounts of these apocryphal remains, even though we should have no opportunity of investigating them ourselves.

The Patent Rolls, preserved in the Tower of London—[Rotuli Litterarum Patentium]—from the Year 1201 to 1216. Edited by Thomas Duffus Hardy, F.A.S., &c., and printed by command of the King. Vol. I. Folio.

Is resuming our pleasant task of selecting from the interesting series of documents which the labours of the Record Commission have placed before us, we feel as if we were brought into company with old acquaintances. Geoffrey Fitz Peter, Reginald de Cornhill, Engel de Cygoigny, Brian de Insula, and Hugh de Neville, names with which we have become well acquainted in former volumes, meet us again in this; while in the varieties of official character which some of them assume, and in the different functions which they exercise, we obtain not only valuable historical information, but a clearer insight into the character of the times, than many an essay expressly written to illustrate the subject could supply. In these documents Geoffrey Fitz Peter no longer appears awarding justice between mere yeomen, but as superintending the reception of the King's prisoners at the Tower, or presiding among the Barons of the Exchequer; Reginald de Cornhill, no longer occupied in purchasing spices for the Christmas festivals, is sent on the more important, though, in its after results to John, fatal mission, of refusing to confirm to the monks of Canterbury their election of Stephen Langton to the primacy; while Engel de Cygoigny, instead of supplying “thirty fat beasts of the forest,” is commissioned to send horses, arms, and money; Brian de Insula, instead of superintending the king's falcons, is commanded “to keep firmly our castle of Bolsover against all our enemies,” and Hugh de Neville, in place of ordering “pigs' heads and gammons of bacon” for a Christmas largesse to the poor, is charged with the weightier task of endeavouring to bring again John's refractory barons to their allegiance. It will thus be seen, that the present volume possesses more of an historical character than either of the former works, to which we have already directed the reader's attention; for the ‘Patent Rolls,’ to quote from Mr. Hardy's interesting preface, “comprise documents of a most diver-

sified and interesting nature, relating principally to prerogatives of the Crown, to the revenue, and to the different branches of judicature; to treaties, truces, correspondence, and negotiations with foreign princes and states; letters of protection, of safe conduct, appointments, and powers of ambassadors, &c.: indeed, there is scarcely a subject connected with the history and government of this country, which may not receive illustration from the Patent Rolls.” Nor is this all:—

“In addition to that class of documents which may properly be termed public, there is another, relating more especially to the internal policy and economy of the kingdom, comprising documents so numerous, that an examination of the Rolls can alone convey an adequate idea of their miscellaneous nature and importance. It would extend this introduction to an unreasonable length, to attempt to enumerate all the particular subjects relating to history or to the law, which are illustrated by the instruments on the Patent Rolls. It may, however, be confidently predicted, that the present publication will be the means of inducing the investigation of many, as yet, disputed questions, relating not only to the history of England, but to that of France and other continental nations.”

Upon some of these Mr. Hardy touches in his introduction; and he gives us a series of entries, relative to the prisoners taken by John, at the conquest of Mirabeau, (among whom were his nephew, Duke Arthur, the Earl of Marche, and several other distinguished persons,) which, in addition to other points, corroborates the assertion both of Matthew Paris, and the Margan annalist, of the extreme severity exercised toward them. The passing hint of Matthew Paris, and Matthew of Westminster, respecting John's dislike of his wife Isabel d'Angoulême, and of his placing her in confinement, also receive, as Mr. Hardy shows, confirmation from these letters patent. There are also some curious entries respecting Lupecaire and Martin Algaïs, two of John's favourite Brabançon mercenaries, which exemplify the recklessness and blind favoritism which have been considered as strongly-marked traits in this monarch's character. But while many a fact of history receives direct confirmation from documents like these, their importance, in frequently affording indirect confirmation, a testimony of tenfold importance, because of its undesignedness, is indeed great. To specify a few of these, the year in which Alianor, King John's mother, died, has been variously stated in our chronicles. This, however, will not greatly impeach their general veracity, since she retired to Fontevraud at a very advanced age, and died there, wholly secluded from the world. The precise year of the decease of one who, in her time, performed so conspicuous a part, it is, however, important to ascertain. Now, the obituary at Fontevraud, as quoted in the ‘Recueil des Historiens Français,’ places her death on the 24th of March 1204, and, from the following extract, the correctness of that date is confirmed.

“The king, &c., to the sheriffs of Dorsetshire.—Know ye that for the love of God, and safety of the soul of our very dear mother, who is recently dead, we have liberated and quitted claim on Wednesday next before Palm Sunday, the 14th day of April, in the fifth year of our reign, all prisoners, for whatever cause they may have been detained, whether for murder, or

larceny, or breaking the forest laws, or for any other misdemeanor whatsoever, except the prisoners taken in our late war; those also whom we sent over from Normandy into England, there to be kept and imprisoned, and the Jews who are now our prisoners. And, therefore, we command you immediately on sight of these letters, to liberate all the aforesaid prisoners, except as above excepted.”

Stow, in his account of the building of London bridge, mentions that John, by gifts and grants of ground, contributed towards it; from these Rolls, however, we find that he interested himself greatly in its completion, and recommended a certain “Magister Isenbert,” master of the schools at Xaintes, who had already completed the bridges of Xaintes and Rochelle, to the notice of the mayor and citizens. The concluding part of the letter is curious, inasmuch as we find the king obliged to use great courtesy toward his “good citizens,” who evidently seem to have liked managing their own affairs, in their own way, much better than submitting to royal dictation.

“And since the said bridge, so much required, cannot be perfected without your and others' assistance, we command and exhort you graciously to receive and to be courteous to (as ye ought) the renowned Isenbert and his assistants, your interest and honour demanding it; and that you should unanimously afford him your counsel and assistance in what has been suggested; for, indeed, every kindness and respect expressed by you toward him, must be reflected back upon yourselves. If, however, any one should do injury to the said Isenbert or his people, (which we cannot suppose,) cause it instantly to be redressed.”

On the death of Archbishop Hubert, John is reported to have seized all the possessions of the See of Canterbury into his own hands. The following letter of acknowledgment seems to prove that even the ecclesiastical wardrobe of the primate was not sacred from the monarch's grasp: the reader will, we think, be amused with this record of “jewels, purple, and fine linen.”

“The king, unto all, &c. Know ye, that we have received at the hand of brothers Galfrid and Robert of London, our clerks, at Tewkesbury, 21st day of January, in the 7th year of our reign, the chest which was formerly belonging to Hubert, late Archbishop of Canterbury, which we committed to the care of the master and brethren, soldiers of the Temple at London: that is to say, one small box with precious stones, a certain cope, also adorned with precious stones, a tunic and dalmatica [both ecclesiastical vestments,] of Indian samite, a certain albe [surplice] of white silk, ornamented with pearls, a stole, a phanon, [also ecclesiastical vestments,] a girdle of goldsmith's work, with gold de adinal on the upper part, shoes adorned with pearls, a cristal vase for censuring, a mitre with precious stones and gold de adinal, and a certain golden buckle. And that the aforesaid, as well the master and brethren of the Temple, as the brothers Galfrid and Robert, may rest satisfied, we have caused these our letters patent to be given. Witness myself at Worcester 23rd of January, by Stephen de Lucy.”

In our selection from the ‘Close Rolls,’ we took occasion to observe how little King John seemed to heed either ecclesiastical or civil opposition, when engaged in pursuing his pleasures; the following acknowledgment of the receipt of his royal apparel and jewels, besides affording a minute picture of the splendour of the monarch, when, on the great festivals, “he bare his crown,” shows

the determination of John to keep his Christmas with all its accustomed observances, although, in the March of the same year, the interdiction had been pronounced, and his subjects, lay as well as ecclesiastical, were on the point of throwing off their allegiance.

"The King to all. Know ye that we have received on the Saturday nearest the feast of St. Nicholas, at Clarendon, the great Crown that came from Germany,† and one crimson tunic, and sandals of the same silk, and a baldric of goldsmith's work with jewels, one pair of shoes, with ornaments of goldsmith's work, and one pair of gloves, and a robe of dark crimson, and a royal mantle of crimson with buckle and broaches of gold, and the silken cloth that is borne above the king at his coronation, and the great sceptre belonging to the same regalia, the golden rod with the dove at the top, and the two swords—that is, the sword of *Tristram*, and the other sword from the same regalia, and the golden spurs: the cup of gold also weighing 8 marks and 2 ounces."

This document is signed on behalf of the king by the bishop of Winchester, the only prelate who, according to the monkish chroniclers, remained in the kingdom, and who appears, from the frequency with which his name occurs on these Patent Rolls at this period, to have constantly accompanied the king. This very unpopular monarch has received abundance of censure from contemporary chroniclers, for his great parsimony towards the church, although, in other respects, profuse even to prodigality. The testimony of these Patent Rolls, we think, fully confirms their statements. We have already seen, that for the "good of his mother's soul," instead of founding churches or endowing chantries, as was customary, he directs the mischievous boon of liberty to all prisoners, (excepting, however, the Jews, who were too valuable a class to be allowed to go free without payment, and prisoners from whom ransom was expected); and, after a rather careful search, we can only find two gifts bestowed either on the church or her servants. The first is certainly a royal gift, for the prior of the Hospitalers having brought to Oxford a quantity of the crown jewels, "when he returned all these aforesaid things, the golden crown, by the impulse of piety, we gave to the house of the aforesaid hospital, for the defence of the poor beyond the sea." The second gift, compared with the lofty phraseology of the introductory clause, seems, indeed, ludicrously mean.

"The King, to all to whom these letters patent may come, &c.—Know ye, that we, by the suggestion of God, and for the safety of our soul, and the souls of our predecessors and successors, have given to Eva, the recluse of Preschet, every day a penny throughout the year, by the hands of our constable of Marlborough, in free charity, so long as she lives."—Luggershall, Aug. 4th, 1215.

The changeful policy of King John toward the Jews is strongly corroborated by these Rolls. At the beginning of his reign he treated them with great lenity, and granted them a charter, which not only confirmed them in all the privileges they enjoyed in

the reign of his father, but added new and important ones. For this charter, Dr. Tovey, in his curious work, 'Anglia Judaica,' remarks, they paid four thousand marks, but that the hostility of the populace was greatly excited against them. Of this, we find a corroboration in the work that last claimed our attention, the 'Rolls of the King's Court'; for almost the only entry relative to the Jews, we found in the first year of John, where it is stated, that "the burgesses of Norwich charge the Jews with breaking into their church-yards," and inquiry is thereupon ordered to be made.† To the complaints of the people on this subject, John, however, paid little attention; and when, three years after, the Jews appear to have complained to the King of the persecutions and indignities which they suffered from the Londoners, King John wrote what Dr. Tovey terms, "a very menacing letter to the mayor and barons." This letter we are now enabled to present to the reader.

"The King to the mayor and barons of London, &c.—We have always much loved you, and have caused your rights and liberties to be well preserved: hence we infer that you especially love us, and willing desire to do whatever may tend to our honour, and the peace and tranquillity of our lands. But, when ye know that the Jews are under our especial protection, we truly marvel that you have allowed mischief to be done to the Jews inhabiting the city of London, such being manifestly against the peace and stability of our realm; and we are so much the more astonished and concerned thereat, because the other Jews, throughout England, wheresoever they dwell, except in your city, are in perfect peace. Nor do we notice this on account of the Jews only, but also for our own quiet, because, if we had granted our protection to a dog, it ought to be inviolably observed.

"Henceforward, therefore, we commit the Jews dwelling in London to your custody: if any one should attempt to harm them, you may always defend and assist them, for in future at your hands will we require their blood, if perchance through our default, any evil happen to them, which Heaven forbid, for we well know that things of this sort do occur through the foolish people of the town, and not through the discreet, by whom the folly of the foolish ought to be restrained.—Witness ourself at Montford, 29th July, 1203."

Let not the reader imagine that this extreme care for the safety and comfort of the Jews, arose from any kindly feeling suddenly awakened in the breast of the monarch, since, at this very time, they were fleeced by him with little compunction, and were so completely at his mercy, that grants, like the following, were of frequent occurrence.

"The Lord King pardons, by his letters patent, William Earl of Arundel, all debts of the

† Some of our readers may probably inquire, what could the Jews gain by this? Not hidden treasure, we reply, but what, according to the superstition of those times, and it was an eastern superstition, was far more valuable to the magician—the recently buried corpse. This dead body, ere corruption had commenced its work, was the vehicle chosen by the demon for his temporary abode, from whence, with articulate voice, he gave answer to the questions which his mightier, though mortal, master demanded. That the Jews were by birthright magicians, was an article of orthodox faith; a charge like this, therefore, was admirably calculated to produce its due effect, by arming every natural and religious feeling of a rude populace against these hapless outcasts, whose chief crimes seem to have been the possession of greater wealth and more extensive knowledge than were the lot of those among whom they resided. A very interesting narrative of the sufferings of this people was noticed in the *Athenæum*, No. 374.

Jews, and which he owes to them, up to the feast of St. Lawrence.—4th year."

"The King to his justiciars.—Know ye that we have acquitted our faithful Saher de Quincy 300 marks, which are due to the Jews. These (letters) therefore, shall be an acquittance from the feast of St. Michael:—in the fifth year of our reign, and to be in force for one year.—Rouen, May 28th."

"The King to all.—Know ye that we have acquitted Robert the son of Roger, during his whole life, of all debts due to the Jews, and also those of William de Chesney, father of Margaret, wife of the aforesaid Robert.—19 Aug. 1208."

The following entry is curious: we should greatly like to know what "the good service" could possibly be, that a Jew could perform in a strong castle. Might it not, however, have been a better disposition of those huge instruments of warfare, the mangonels and balistæ which the geometrical science, so eminently possessed by the Jews, during the Middle Ages, might well enable him to make?

"The King to his justiciars.—Know ye, that we have given our firm peace to Hanuchim our Jew; so that he may safely come into our land, and there remain, like as other Jews, for the good service which he did us in the castle of Anjou, with our beloved and faithful R., constable of Chester.—Westminster, Nov. 1204."

It was not long, however, that this unhappy people enjoyed the monarch's ostensible protection. John's lavish expenditure soon emptied the coffers of the Exchequer, and, after he had tried various "ways and means," he discovered that, by aid of the deteriorated state of the coinage, he might obtain a supply.

The following precept, to which Mr. Ruding, in his valuable work on the coinage, refers, forcibly exhibits the arbitrary and unjust character of this monarch's enactments: that it was intended to press very heavily on the Jews, is also evident; for what was more easy for the "four lawful men," than to pass lightly over the offences of their Christian neighbours, and visit those of the Jews with confiscation of their property, since the charge of clipping the King's coin was the most common of the charges brought against the Jews?

"The King to the sheriff of Lincoln, &c.—We direct, that immediately on sight of these letters, ye cause it to be proclaimed and known through your bailiwicks, and at fairs, at markets, and on the festival days of the mother churches, that no one shall carry about, or have in his possession, a clipped penny after the feast of St. Hilary, in the sixth year of our reign. And do thou, as thou lovest thyself, firmly execute our precept in the following manner.—That, if a clipped penny be found after the aforesaid day in the hand of male or female burgess, that penny shall be taken and bored through, and put in a certain box, safely to be kept for our use. And the man or woman to whom the penny belonged shall be placed in safe custody, and all their goods and chattels attached, and they shall be placed at my mercy. If also a clipped penny be found in the hands of a Jew or Jewess, that penny shall be taken and bored through, and safely kept in a certain box for our use, and the body of the Jew or Jewess who had the penny * * * and all their chattels taken and retained without bail, until we command otherwise. And if a clipped penny be found in the hand of knight, husbandman, or peasant, that penny shall be taken and bored, and returned to him from whence it was taken. And, to per-

† Might not this have been the imperial crown which his grandmother, the Empress Maude, according to Hoveden, brought over to England, together with the "uncorrupted hand of St. James the Apostle"? We are told that Beaulieu placed this crown in his treasury; and in comparison with the light and elegant strawberry-leaf crown, the ponderous close diadem of the descendant of the Cæsars might well be termed "great."

form this, ye shall cause four lawful men to be appointed in each borough, castle, or town, where a market is held, by whom the clipped pennies are to be taken and bored, and placed in a certain box, under their seal, and the seal of the bailiff or some other, to be kept for our use; and ye shall cause them to swear that they will be faithful servants to us in the said thing."

This precept is dated at Guildford, Nov. 9th, 1205, and it is added, "in like form was this (precept) addressed to all the sheriffs of England." We wish that the obliteration in the foregoing precept had not occurred in the part relating to the Jews: that they were to be subjected to severer penalties, seems, however, probable, from the insertion of the clause "without bail," in respect to them, which the reader will observe is not inserted in the preceding sentence, which respects the punishment of Christians. About the same time, also, a prohibition of the *reblanching* the old pennies was issued, in which "Jew goldsmiths" are especially mentioned, and from which we find that the pennies were to be considered legal money until deficient more than an eighth in weight.

With the proclamation of the interdict, John's troubles commenced, and he was forced to seek for means to refill an Exchequer, emptied not only by his own prodigal extravagance, but by the large payments which he was compelled to make to his Brabançon mercenaries. The Jews seemed to be the most convenient paymasters, and from them, in a short time, he exacted *sixty-six thousand marks*, a sum amounting to between *seven and eight hundred thousand pounds* present money. The following precept is worth extracting: in the midst of his earnest desires that "justice" might be done to his people, he seems to have cast a longing eye on the possessions of the Jews:—

"The King to the archbishop, bishops, abbots, earls, barons, knights and free tenants, and all others in the counties of Lincoln and York, greeting.—We have heard frequent complaints from many, that the sheriffs, and their servants, and others our bailiffs, extort gifts from you, which have not accrued to our benefit; and that they have evilly conducted themselves towards you, at the which we were in no slight manner moved. We have, therefore, sent to you our faithful and beloved Robert de Ros, William de Albini, Simon de Kyme, and Thomas de Muleton, commanding, that at the place, and on the day which they shall assign you, ye shall assemble, and, on the sacraments, acquaint us, through them, what, and how much, and in what proportion, such of our bailiffs have taken from you, since we were delayed on our last journey to Ireland; to the end that by your statement we may correct those excesses. Also, cause it to be made known to us how much our bailiffs have collected from each hundred, tithing, and wapentake, in your counties. Also, cause us to know who held pledges of the Jews, and from what time, and by what tenure they are held, and how much they are worth, and the names of the pledgers. And let us know the houses and the lordships of the Jews, and what lordships they hold in fee, and by what yearly rent, and of whom they are held, and how much from thence they have paid, and how much is their utmost value.—Kimbolton, 25th Feb. 1213."

Soon after this, John commenced a cruel persecution of the Jews throughout England, on which occasion Matthew Paris declares that he exacted no less than *ten thousand marks* from a Jew named Isaac of Bristol.

It is more than probable that this was the self-same person as the Jew mentioned in the following precept: that John attached no little importance to this prisoner, seems evident from his directing the chief justiciary, Fitz Peter himself, to superintend his delivery.

"The king to the constable of Bristol.—We direct you that forthwith, on sight of these letters, you send under safe and good custody, Isaac, the son of Jurnet, to the Tower of London, and there cause him to be delivered to G. Fitz Peter, our justiciary. We also direct the said justiciary that he receive him when he comes there.—Dorchester, 26th July, 1213."

The following is of the same date:—

"The king to the constable of Bristol.—We direct that all the Jews who have not paid their tallage at Bristol, concerning which we sent letters to our sheriff and constable, ye will receive, and cause them to be kept in our castle there, in prison, as before thou hast done, until we shall signify otherwise concerning them."

This is the last precept respecting the Jews which we find in this volume. It is not improbable that from the succeeding volumes we may obtain authentic information as to the causes which, in the reign of Edward, led to their final expulsion. We must here, however, for the present, conclude. In a future paper we shall lay before the reader some extracts relating to the wars of the barons, and endeavour to prove the great value of documents like these, as tests of the accuracy of contemporary historians, by selecting a series of entries, illustrating the history of the two last years of John's turbulent reign.

THE ANNUALS FOR 1836.

The Oriental Annual. By the Rev. Hobart Caunter, B.D. Churton.

From the time when the *Annals* first came seasonably forth in December, they have gone on year by year, anticipating the proper period of their appearance; and now, before the leaves have turned yellow, these Christmas offerings are before us!

Mr. Caunter, as usual, is foremost in the race; and, with this volume, he completes the first series of '*The Oriental Annual*.' The interest of the two former is fully sustained in the present: there is, perhaps, here and there, a spice too much of the horrible for our tastes, for we have reached the time when the mind instinctively turns itself towards what is sunny and hopeful, instead of bewildering itself with images of pain and terror: but it was, perhaps, impossible to write of India—that stronghold of dark and fearful superstition—without introducing such scenes and descriptions; and the pictures of the ancient cities, and the singular and interesting manners of the people, show all the brighter for being thus varied. As heretofore, both artist and author have given us some glimpse of the natural, as well as the human history of the land of their pilgrimage, and, generally, we may say that the work deserves a continuance of the success which it has hitherto commanded.

We shall extract the following incident—the least terrible of many related in the course of the volume:—

"Before we quitted Tanjore I witnessed one of those awful acts of superstitious devotion so common in this country. I was riding rather early in the morning, upon the banks of the Ca-

very, when I saw a group of some half-dozen persons descend to the river's brink. The water was here many feet deep. Stopping my horse to see what was going on, I observed one of the group preparing to plunge into the stream. * * The victim was a man somewhat past the meridian of life, but, nevertheless, apparently in vigorous health. He stood upon the bank of the stream, and on either side of him was a Brahmin who fastened a large earthenware jar upon his shoulders. After this was done, the man made several prostrations, and entered the river. He slipped off the bank, where the depth was considerable, but the jars prevented him from sinking. The Brahmins folded their arms and looked silently on. They attempted neither to save him from destruction nor to expedite his death. He remained for some time floating, as if in prayer. The surface of the water was unruined, except where it was disturbed by the motions of his body, and seemed an apt emblem of that apathy with which those ministers of a sanguinary religion looked upon an act of detestable suicide.

"The man made several efforts to fill the jars, using the most deliberate exertions to accomplish his abominable sacrifice. Finding that he could not succeed, he at length drew himself to the bank, seized the root of a shrub which was partially bared, and, bending forward, succeeded in turning the mouth of one of the jars toward the stream, and filling it. This only served to lengthen the dreadful process of death; for the other jar, which was empty, prevented him from sinking, whilst that which was full drew him sufficiently under water to obstruct his breathing. In his struggles, however, he continually rose, and partially recovered, only again to be half suffocated. Although this continued for several minutes, the wretched man never once attempted to get out of the river; on the contrary, his determination to die was evident to the last moment. Seeing that his struggles were likely to continue, I called out to the Brahmins to break the empty jar; but those haughty functionaries did not condescend to notice my expostulations. At length, one of the bystanders, more merciful than the priests, dashed a stone upon the empty vessel, and the wretched victim sank; a few bubbles rose to the surface, and the water flowed over him, without leaving a visible memorial of that superstitious tragedy. This man was of the weaver cast; and I heard it said, that his wife expressed an anxious desire to die a suttie; but as the husband's body had been probably taken by alligators, and she, therefore, could not go through the ceremony according to prescribed form, she was spared the necessity of dying a death, distinguished, indeed, in her eyes, but, nevertheless, truly horrible."

The next thing that stops us, is the description of Trimal Naig's Choultry at Madura, a building of great magnificence, and made the more interesting by one or two fantastic and singular legends. The walls contain a sort of chronicle, in stone, of the glories of Trimal Naig's ancestors, and some domestic incidents connected with the building itself.

"Of the principal wife, in the front group, a fact is recorded which will convey some idea of the wealth and magnificence of Eastern princes: she was daughter of the Rajah of Tanjore, a prince who possessed immense treasure, and exercised an unbounded liberality.

"When the Choultry was finished, upon which Trimal Naig had lavished an enormous sum of money, he conducted his wife into it with a certain air of ostentation, as if he expected she would be struck by the extraordinary grandeur of the edifice. Upon his asking her what she thought of it, she coldly cast her eyes around, and told him, with an unmoved countenance, it was far inferior in splendour to her father's

stables. This mortifying declaration so exasperated the royal husband, that he instantly drew a dagger from his girdle and plunged it into her thigh. Trimal Naig has himself preserved the record of this event, as the figure representing his favourite wife, and standing nearest on the pillar to his own effigy, has a large gash below the hip on the left side. Upon this occasion, when his rage had subsided, he did not suffer the hint given by his royal consort to be lost, but increased the magnificence of the Choultry by considerably adding to the richness of its decorations."

The building is, in other respects, a remarkable one, and it has been suspected that the famous Jesuit, Robertus de Nobilibus, was concerned in its erection. Besides the statues mentioned, the figures of the two architects who constructed it are also sculptured on its walls, incarcerated in a cell—such having been their fate, to prevent them from raising, in any other city, a structure which should outvie the palace of this haughty and passionate monarch. It is curious to think how many similar traditions of crime and petty jealousy are to be found in the finest buildings all over the world, from the effigies in Trimal Naig's Choultry to the Apprentice's pillar in "Roslin's proud Chappelle."

The volume also contains an account of the Phansigars, those scourges of India, and a pleasant little romance of a Guebre priest and his daughter, who lived in one of the old tombs at Delhi; but a few scattered anecdotes of those marvellous people the jugglers, who, like the magicians of modern Egypt, do things strange enough to puzzle even our hardened incredulity, are better suited for extract, and with them we shall close our notice. The conjurers in question appeared at a grand entertainment given by the Rajah of Coorg.

"One of the men, taking a large earthen vessel, with a capacious mouth, filled it with water, and turned it up-side down, when all the water flowed out: but the moment it was placed with the mouth upwards it always became full. He then emptied it, allowing any one to inspect it who chose. This being done, he desired that one of the party would fill it: his request was obeyed; still, when he reversed the jar, not a drop of water flowed—and upon turning it, to our astonishment, it was empty. * * * I examined the jar carefully when empty, but detected nothing which could lead to a discovery of the mystery. I was allowed to retain and fill it myself; still, upon taking it up, all was void within, yet the ground around it was perfectly dry, so that how the water had disappeared, and where it had been conveyed, were problems which none of us were able to expound. The vessel employed by the jugglers on this occasion was the common earthenware of the country, very roughly made; and in order to convince us that it had not been especially constructed for the purpose of aiding his clever deceptions, he permitted it to be broken in our presence: the fragments were then handed round for the inspection of his highness and the party present with him. * * *

"The next thing that engaged our attention, was a feat of dexterity altogether astonishing. A woman, the upper part of whose body was entirely uncovered, presented herself to our notice, and taking a bamboo twenty feet high, placed it upright on a flat stone, and then, without any support, climbed to the top of it with surprising activity. Having done this, she stood upon one leg on the point of the bamboo, balancing it all the while. Round her waist she

had a girdle, to which was fixed an iron socket: springing from her upright position on the bamboo, she threw herself horizontally forward with such exact precision, that the top of the pole entered the socket of her iron zone, and in this position she spun herself round with a velocity which made me giddy to look at,—the bamboo all the while appearing as if it were supported by some supernatural agency. She turned her legs backwards, till the heels touched her shoulders, and, grasping the ankles in her hands, continued her rotations so rapidly, that the outline of her body was entirely lost to the eye, and she looked like a revolving ball. Having performed several other feats equally extraordinary, she slid down the elastic shaft, and raising it in the air, balanced it upon her chin, then upon her nose, and finally projected it to a distance from her, without the application of her hands. She was an elderly woman, and by no means prepossessing in her person, which, I conclude, was the reason that the Rajah, though he applauded her dexterity, did not give her a proof of his liberality. We, however, threw her a few rupees, with which she appeared perfectly satisfied."

The Christian Keepsake. Fisher, Son & Co. This Annual has chosen its part wisely, in addressing itself exclusively to one large division of the world of readers; and the result has been—success. The present volume is an improvement on its predecessor; some of the embellishments are beautiful; the frontispiece is an engraving by Cochran, from Mr. G. Hayter's portrait of the Princess Victoria. Our favourite, however, is Mr. Melville's subject from the Pilgrim's Progress, of 'The Shepherds showing the Pilgrims the gates of the Celestial City';—it is almost sublime. Besides these, the illustrations include likenesses of the late Dr. Morrison, Mr. Wilberforce, and Mrs. Fry, all of which, though not ranking very high as works of art, may be commended for their careful execution. The biographical notices of the two former are, to us, the most interesting parts of the literary contents of the book. Among the rest of its contents, we must particularize a fine hymn by Montgomery, of Sheffield, some pleasant verse by Bernard Barton, and a forcible poem by Mrs. Gilbert; 'The Summer Brook,' too, by Miss Stickney, is sweet and flowing. On the whole, though there be little to praise in the volume on the score of literary merit, there is nothing to offend.

Balbi's Abridgment of Geography—[*Abrégé de Géographie*]. Paris: Renouard; London, Bossange & Co.

WE do not propose reviewing, on this its second edition, M. Balbi's work. Our object is, merely to take it as a text, and submit a few hints upon Geographical Compendiums, for the notice of future compilers. The subject, though not one of general interest, is of great importance. Acknowledging with all humility, the subordinate value of our hints, we think they may serve to make a future edition of this work, or any similar one, still more acceptable; for, of a truth, Geography is yet in so lame a state, that it cannot with propriety disdain the feeblest assistance. Human sagacity, we are told, can penetrate to the stars—can brush with its sail-broad vans "the flaming walls" of the world; but, alas! it has still to penetrate into the middle of Africa, and to brush with said vans a north-west passage to China. Having cal-

culated the height of a mountain in the moon, it is grieved to tell us that of the Himalaya; and, after developing the remote obscurities of the "Solar System," it is utterly posed by the arcana that lie on the very surface of our own little sphere! We are not quite sure if human sagacity have nothing more to discover in the Scilly Islands.

An abridgment is understood to mean, that which contains all the matter requisite, and nothing more. Now, of these two conditions the former cannot always be fulfilled, and its non-fulfilment may therefore find excuse—while the latter always can, and therefore its non-fulfilment is unpardonable. In conformity with this very simple maxim, what does M. Balbi, who puts forth no humble claims as an abridger?—why, favours us with a *prefatory* diatribe one-twelfth as big as his whole compendium!—equal to his entire description of Africa! Though much of it be taken up with matter personal, criminative, and common-place, we do not desire to question the merit of his preface, but merely its business in his book. It is that kind of addition which we regard as by no means an accession, but rather an incumbance. How should the student be concerned to know the difficulties of writing such a work, the methods pursued, the errors of all others?—how, in short, is he concerned to know M. Balbi's reasons (and this they come to at last) for not giving him a *bad* geography? If he gets a good one, what use in proving to him, by a hundred pages of close print, that he has got it? He wishes the greatest quantum, in the smallest bulk, for the lowest price—that is his beau-ideal of an abridgment! But M. Balbi, with (we must take leave to say) a most perverse short-sightedness, bestows as much space in showing what a compendium of geography should not contain, as the insertion of it would take up. He is thus irrelevant to an extreme in demonstrating that he will not be at all irrelevant.

There is too much of systematizing about all this. What we want is, not a book got up according to the line and rule of criticism, but a useful book; and, if it be such, we do not care a fig's end whether it be vulnerable or not to *Carp* of the Edinburgh, or *Cavil* of the Quarterly, on those minor points about which M. Balbi is so punctilious. Had he suppressed his long apologetic preface, it would have enabled him to be more liberal on the subject of Natural Curiosities, no un-instructive item, we depone, of a Geography, and which we are compelled to note as deficient in his treatise. The compiler of a work so much thronged with mere names, as a Geography like this must needs be, should exert himself, as far as possible, to scatter among them pregnant topics. Unless he interpolate a little entertainment through the text of his work, it will become as dry as a lexicon, and, therefore, not much more seductive reading. The memory of his reader will become a geographical muster-roll, instead of a map at once beautiful and useful.

M. Balbi's notes of query, put after statements and measures yet unverified, are a conscientious and creditable proceeding, well worthy imitation by those disciples of literary absolutism, who are never more dogmatic than when most ignorant. His *Annuaire Géographique*, to form a running supplement for his present work of all new facts and

corrections as they arise from future discoveries, is a project meriting unreserved praise, both for its philosophical and public spirit. We wish him every success, and an imitator in England.

A well-chosen, and not too numerous, System of Abbreviations, we should recommend for an abridgment; and a schedule, explanative of these, should form the whole and sole preface. Tables are a still more effective agent of typographical economy, exhibiting, in a small space, at one view, with the advantage of comparison likewise, results of enormous amplitude. These tables, we think, should be adopted still more frequently than usual in abridgments. Again: at certain fixed points of each section, so as to be findable at once by the reader, we should propose a bare syllabus, containing, in a fixed order, the number of inhabitants, of houses, the products, manufactures, &c., of the place described; all things in fact, that could with fairness come under such a category. We say a *bare* syllabus, because the object would be to save that expense of space constantly occurring in such a work, where the above items are detailed by circumlocution, and thus to leave room for other matters not so condensable. Abridgers would be surprised to see how much of their treatises is taken up with forms of speech like the following:—"This town is celebrated for the manufacture of soap," or, "This place carries on a flourishing export trade in hides and tallow;"—where "soap," and "hides and tallow," in the proper place, would be sufficient. The system of Abbreviations might be here especially useful, by putting initials, for example, to denote the particular heads,—I, inhabitants, H, houses, &c. As first item of the syllabus, we may suggest the *latitude and longitude*, when known, of at least the principal places; thus, after the description, say of Lisbon: 38° 43' N., 9° 4' W. In addition to these obvious, but partially used means of compendium, all those which Classification affords should be enlisted. Thus, for example, M. Balbi's geographical *division of countries by basins*, is a classification that serves the cause, not only of conciseness but clearness. We would protest, however, against classification being pushed to a fantastical length, as sometimes happens. By ultraism of this sort, a reader may, as we ourselves not long since did, find stated among a million of facts, one of a nature to stagger the stoutest credulity, viz. that the *whale* belongs to the class of *land animals*. To be sure, there are points of resemblance which may serve to incorporate any two species of animals as well as mammiferous; but the terminology should be circumspect, as well as the classification itself—which, indeed, is the same—otherwise we shall, perhaps, by and bye, have elephants classed with sword-fish, because both have probosci. A middle term may be found between the most contradictory extremes, and Chop-logic from Cam. or Oxon., will prove to you, with great ease, that *nothing and something* are by no means opposite natures, as you think, both being proximate species of *ens*, and, therefore, standing towards each other in the very first degree of kindred. Hence it is, that classification, though much to be recommended for abridgments, having "*fœnum in cornu*," should deter a compiler from yoking

it in his work, without all means of mastery. General demarcations are likewise of great use to give clear and comprehensive ideas of the globe and its parts. But they, too, must be select rather than numerous. We suggest the following, as, to our belief, particularly convenient, and, to our knowledge, as yet unadopted in any treatise:—

The Equator passes nearly through: Quito, Mouth of the Amazon, Gulf of Guinea, Middle of Sumatra, Borneo, and Polynesia.

The Tropic of Cancer nearly through: Havannah, Great African Desert, Confine of Egypt and Nubia, Calcutta, Canton, and Sandwich Isles.

The Tropic of Capricorn nearly through: Rio, South end of Madagascar, Middle of Australia, and Dangerous Archipelago.

The Arctic Circle nearly through: North point of Iceland, Obi mouth, Behring's Strait, and Repulse Bay.

The Antarctic Circle nearly through: Southern part of South Shetland Isles.

These five series of remarkable points, and others that might easily be added in meridional directions, if specified at the head of Abridgments for commission to memory, would answer as great lines of reference, by which, like historic epochs, a reader might guess at distances and sites, with something like correctness, when he had no map at hand—they would stand as geographical *axes of co-ordination*. A few general and simple Laws of Statistics might be advisable; such as the usual proportion of families to individuals, of soldierable men to the whole population, &c. M. Balbi contends against Statistic Geographies as mongrel; but M. Balbi, nevertheless, finds *some* statistics requisite to a Geography, and that is all we require. A short Exercise (with answers given) in the weight and measure tables commonly appended to these works, would be of service. This should, at the same time, be on such points as might come into practical use—*e.g.* if the table be English,—what is the distance from Calais to Paris in French leagues, or in French posts? and so forth.

M. Balbi's Index to his second edition is, he hopes, an improvement; it is much more, an indispensable appendage. Beyond any other work, perhaps, a Geography, being so much a book of reference, should furnish this, and not as a matter of compliment either, but of duty: the work is incomplete without it. But, again: we would propose a species of Index, which were, indeed, a favour, and which no compiler, that we recollect, has conferred on his readers—namely, an *Accentuated Index*. Nothing, it is well known, runs much wilder than prosody through all languages of the earth, and most among its patronymic terms—to so great a degree, that even a club of all geographers existing could not compile a perfect accentuated Index, or, rather, any but one multifariously erroneous. If this be so, in what a wilderness of cacology must the simple student find himself, while making his way through the various dialects of this Babylonish world? How is he to know that *Iran*, the noble name of Persia, should not have the ordinary sound, *iron*, or near it? What else but the want of such an index occasions the gross and universal mistake of pronunciation—Niagara for Niagara, even in the very teeth of Goldsmith, whom we all pretend to be too familiar with—

And Niagara stuns with thundering sound.

We would insist with compilers of new Geographies, on giving the public an accentuated Index at least, if not accentuating through the whole text of their work, to extricate their readers from a most perplexing and pestilential condition of ignorance on this subject. No matter! let the Index be partially erroneous, as it must be; let the system of accentuation be philological or misological, so as it be plain; no matter—let us have the Index. One or two general rules, as to the *place of emphases* in different quarters or countries of the world (where possible) might also be useful, as they would serve for making *good guesses* by, where certainty was not to be had.

We would altogether deprecate, at least in a Geography for the unlearned, all that bombastic cant which we should pronounce unphilosophical, if it were not so much in vogue with philosophers. As an example: without condemning the perpetually intrusive term *plateau* (affected by our own writers to the prejudice of a legitimate and much better word, *table-land*), we object decidedly to the phrase so often used by M. Balbi and others,—such or such a "chain of mountains *furrow* (*sillonnet*) such a land." It would be as philosophical to tell us, that such or such a "chain of vallies *hedge* such a land." If so preposterous a meaning for *sillonner* have crept by neglect into common parlance, the business of philosophers should be to banish instead of naturalizing it. We grant the imposing air of such a phraseology, but, if aped by lesser spirits, we expect shortly to hear of the "Nile forming a *breakwater* to the sands of the Desert," and the "Apennines flowing in a stream through Italy!"

We have been the more particular on all the above subjects, as a work of the geographical compendium kind is, we believe, contemplated by London publishers. Let this axiom, we pray them, be observed, if no other—prefaces and introductions are the bane of abridgments. Every preliminary page, not imperative in a work of that rudimentary description, is a fraud upon the reader, who pays for bread, and gets puff paste to fill him with flatulence. Besides, it contracts circulation, first, by augmenting the price, and then by frightening irresolute readers. But, with a few words more, we have done.

M. Balbi's work is very well printed, and *cheap* (15 francs)—this last particular one we would fain impress on our publishers as not the least desirable quality of a compendium. In fine, there are few deformations of names in his volume; though we do sometimes meet, on that ground where it would seem no foreigner can stand firm in any capacity, such metamorphoses as the following: *Teaslesbury*, Isle of *Wight*, *Burry St. Edmund*. We signalize, also, for his attention, two strange omissions, not complimentary to the same empire, viz. though he gives with all due precision the superficial content of *Arkangelst* and *Corsica*, he says not a word about the area of Scotland or Ireland! On the whole, however, we are bound to acknowledge that, as far as we can judge, his abridgment does not contain more inaccuracies than must ever occur in any like work on a science (as it is called) made up so much of hearsays.

The New England Magazine. Boston, U.S.

[Second Notice.]

Is all the American periodicals there are occasional clever papers—but, in the general conduct and management, we discover a manifest want of experience—of sound training and discipline—of literary *habits*, feelings, and associations. They seem made up of voluntary contributions. This is less evident in the *New England Magazine* than in most others. However, we promised to allow the work to speak for itself. On this occasion, precedence shall be given to

The Lay.

BY J. G. PERCIVAL.

Over plain and hill and mountain
Speeds away on pinions strong,
Nerved with life from holy fountain,
Far away, the soul of song.
O'er it swells the arch of heaven,
Boundless arch of softest blue—
Round it rise the halls of even,
Hung with every gorgeous hue.
To the spirit land of wonder,
Cloud-concealed, it speeds afar,
Borne on wings of rushing thunder,
Sounding like the tempest car—
Rolling high like ocean surges,
When the midnight Typhoon rings,
Hollow as a nation's dirges,
When the Almighty vengeance stings—
Deep and full as torrent pouring
From a wasted Alp of snows—
Awful as a Volcan roaring,
Ere its fiery deluge flows—
Yet as stream in shady valley,
Gurgling low through grass and flowers;
Evening wind in garden alley,
Brushing dew from lilac bowers;
Mellow horn, as twilight closes,
Winding through the slumbering grove;
Maiden heart, by hedge of roses,
Murmuring faint its lay of love.
Yet so soft this echo lingers,
Round the tranced listener's ear,
Sweet as struck by fairy fingers,
Breathes the wind harp, dim and clear.
On by keenest longing driven,
Speeds away their eagle flight,
Till the magic cloud-wall riven,
Dazzling pous a sea of light.
Then as beams the land of wonder,
Bursting from its cloudy veil,
Anthem tones like peals of thunder,
Bid the new inspirer hail.

We shall conclude with

A Rill from the Town-Pump.

"Noon, by the north clock! Noon, by the east! High noon, too, by these hot sunbeams, which fall, scarcely aslope, upon my head, and almost make the water bubble and smoke, in the trough under my nose. Truly, we public characters have a tough time of it. * * * The title of 'town-treasurer' is rightfully mine, as guardian of the best treasure that the town has. The overseers of the poor ought to make me their chairman, since I provide bountifully for the pauper, without expense to him that pays taxes. I am at the head of the fire-department, and one of the physicians to the board of health. As a keeper of the peace, all water-drinkers will confess me equal to the constable. I perform some of the duties of the town clerk, by promulgating public notices, when they are posted on my front. To speak within bounds, I am the chief person of the municipality, and exhibit, moreover, an admirable pattern to my brother officers, by the cool, steady, upright, downright, and impartial discharge of my business, and the constancy with which I stand to my post. Summer or winter, nobody seeks me in vain; for, all day long, I am seen at the busiest corner, just above the market, stretching out my arms, to rich and poor alike.

"At this sultry noontide, I am cup-bearer to the parched populace, for whose benefit an iron goblet is chained to my waist. Like a dram-seller on the mall, at muster day, I cry aloud to

all and sundry, in my plainest accents, and at the very tip-top of my voice, Here it is, gentlemen! Here is the good liquor! Walk up, walk up, gentlemen, walk up, walk up! Here is the superior stuff! Here is the unadulterated ale of father Adam—better than Cognac, Hollands, Jamaica, strong-beer, or wine of any price; here it is, by the hoghead or the single glass, and not a cent to pay! Walk up, gentlemen, walk up, and help yourselves!

"It were a pity, if all this outcry should draw no customers. Here they come. A hot day, gentlemen. Quaff, and away again. You, my friend, will need another cup-full, to wash the dust out of your throat, if it be as thick there as it is on your cowhide shoes. I see that you have trudged half a score of miles, to-day; and, like a wise man, have passed by the taverns, and stopped at the running-brooks and well-curbs. Otherwise, betwixt heat without and fire within, you would have been burnt to a cinder, or melted down to nothing at all, in the fashion of a jelly-fish. Drink, and make room for that other fellow, who seeks my aid to quench the fiery fever of last night's potations, which he drained from no cup of mine. Welcome, most rubicund Sir! You and I have been great strangers hitherto; nor, to confess the truth, will my nose be anxious for a closer intimacy, till the fumes of your breath be a little less potent. Mercy on you, man! The water absolutely hisses down your red-hot gullet, and is converted quite to steam, in the miniature tophet, which you mistake for a stomach. Fill again, and tell me, on the word of an honest toper, did you ever, in cellar, tavern, or any kind of a dram-shop, spend the price of your children's food for a swig half so delicious? Now, for the first time these ten years, you know the flavour of cold water. Good bye; and, whenever you are thirsty, remember that I keep a constant supply, at the old stand. Who next? Oh, my little friend, you are let loose from school, and come hither to scrub your blooming face, and drown the memory of certain taps of the ferule, and other school-boy troubles—young life; take it, and may your heart and tongue never be scorched with a fiercer thirst than now! There, my dear child, put down the cup, and yield your place to this elderly gentleman, who treads so tenderly over the paving-stones, that I suspect he is afraid of breaking them. What! He limps by, without so much as thanking me, as if my hospitable offers were meant only for people who have no wine-cellar. Well, well, sir—no harm done, I hope! Go draw the cork, tip the decanter; but, when your great-toe shall set you a-roaring, it will be no affair of mine. If gentlemen love the pleasant titillation of the gout, it is all one to the Town-Pump. This thirsty dog, with his red tongue lolling out, does not scorn my hospitality, but stands on his hind-legs, and laps eagerly out of the trough. See how lightly he capers away again! Jowler, did your worship ever have the gout?

"Are you all satisfied? Then wipe your mouths, my good friends; and, while my spout has a moment's leisure, I will delight the town with a few historical reminiscences. In far antiquity, beneath a darksome shadow of venerable boughs, a spring bubbled out of the leaf-strewn earth, in the very spot where you now behold me, on the sunny pavement. The water was as bright and clear, and deemed as precious, as liquid diamonds. The Indian Sagamores drank of it, from time immemorial, till the fatal deluge of the fire-water burst upon the red men, and swept their whole race away from the cold fountains. Endicott, and his followers, came next, and often knelt down to drink, dipping their long beards in the spring. The richest goblet, then, was of birch-bark. Governor Winthrop, after a journey afoot from Boston, drank here, out of the hollow of his hand. The elder

Higginson here wet his palm, and laid it on the brow of the first town-born child. For many years, it was the watering-place, and, as it were, the wash-bowl of the vicinity—whither all decent folks resorted, to purify their visages, and gaze at them afterwards—at least, the pretty maidens did—in the mirror which it made. On Sabbath-days, whenever a babe was to be baptized, the sexton filled his basin here, and placed it on the communion-table of the humble meeting-house, which partly covered the site of yonder stately brick one. Thus, one generation after another was consecrated to Heaven by its waters, and cast their waxing and waning shadows into its glassy bosom, and vanished from the earth, as if mortal life were but a flitting image in a fountain. Finally, the fountain vanished also. Cellars were dug on all sides, and cart-loads of gravel flung upon its source, whence oozed a turbid stream, forming a mud-puddle at the corner of two streets. In the hot months, when its refreshment was most needed, the dust flew in clouds over the forgotten birth-place of the waters, now their grave. But, in the course of time, a Town-Pump was sunk into the source of the ancient spring; and, when the first decayed, another took its place—and then another, and still another—till here stand I, gentlemen and ladies, to serve you with my iron goblet. Drink, and be refreshed! The water is as pure and cold as that which slaked the thirst of the red Sagamore, beneath the aged boughs, though now the gem of the wilderness is treasured under these hot stones, where no shadow falls, but from the brick buildings. And be it the moral of my story, that, as this wasted and long-lost fountain is now known and prized again, so shall the virtues of cold water, too little valued since your fathers' days, be recognized by all.

"Your pardon, good people! I must interrupt my stream of eloquence, and spout forth a stream of water, to replenish the trough for this teamster and his two yoke of oxen, who have come from Topsfield, or somewhere along that way. No part of my premises is pleasanter than the watering of cattle. Look! how rapidly they lower the water-mark on the side of the trough, till their capacious stomachs are moistened with a gallon or two apiece, and they can afford time to breathe it in, with sighs of calm enjoyment. Now they roll their quiet eyes around the brim of their monstrous drinking vessel. An ox is your true toper. * * *

"Ahem! Dry work, this speechifying; especially to an unpractised orator. I never conceived, till now, what toil the temperance-lecturers undergo for my sake. Hereafter, they shall have the business to themselves. Do, some kind Christian, pump a stroke or two, just to wet my whistle. Thank you, sir! * * *

"One o'clock! Nay, then, if the dinner-bell begins to speak, I may as well hold my peace. Here comes a pretty young girl of my acquaintance, with a large stone-pitcher for me to fill. May she draw a husband, while drawing her water, as Rachel did of old. Hold out your vessel, my dear! There it is, full to the brim; so now run home, peeping at your sweet image in the pitcher, as you go; and forget not, in a glass of my own liquor, to drink—SUCCESS TO THE TOWN-PUMP."

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

'*The English in India, and other Sketches, by a Traveller.*'—This work has been by accident overlooked, and though we have not many words to say concerning it, still, as those few are pleasant, it would have been more agreeable to ourselves, and (we hope) to the author, to have hastened rather than held them back till the present period. Now, however, when Parliament is prorogued, and the gay world scattered about among country houses and watering-places, a notice may be more service-

able than in the heat and crush of the season; for we can recommend the work as a light and amusing collection of sketches, with life and merit enough to secure its welcome in any drawing-room on a wet morning, when "something new is the cry," or to cheer the fireside of a seaside lodging-house, on some noisy, gusty autumn night. 'The English in India' describes itself by its title; we have the old antagonists, passion and principle, sensibility and sense, again brought upon the scene, with a frame-work of Indian society and scenery and manners; some of the characters native to the land of desires and palanqueens, are well done, though we hope, for the peace of such of our countrymen and women as are ordered "up the country," that Mrs. Huggins is not quite so common, or, if common, not quite so fierce a biped as our author describes her. Of the shorter sketches which follow the 'English in India,' we prefer 'Knighthood,' in which are described, something in Miss Austen's quiet vein, the consequences of that smallest of titles falling upon the head of a family in a provincial town. Poetical justice is here fairly and naturally administered.

'An Essay on the Nature of Diseases,' by A. Green, L.L.B.—An essay on mirth by an undertaker, we could understand, for things may be defined by their contraries; but an essay on diseases by an L.L.B., was rather puzzling, until the secret transpired in the few first pages. The author has been to see the oxy-hydrogen microscope exhibited, and has been "frighted from his propriety" by the spectacle. His hallucination is, that all diseases are occasioned by animalculæ; and his logical formula is this: "whatever may be, may be; nothing prevents it from being, therefore it is." It is curious to remark, that this theory ends precisely where all other medical theories have hitherto ended. "We may know, or at least believe, that a disease is caused by some minute creatures, of some kind, situated somewhere; but we may neither know the kind, nor the situation, nor what medicines can be made to come into contact with them, nor what will destroy them when it is in contact, except by experience. The means of cure can only be known by experience; and experience must therefore still be the foundation of medical science, or at least of such part of it as is of practical utility." This, which is the last sentence of the book, looks something like a return to reason; and we hope that this first victory of the sane over the lunatic animalculæ may be followed up to a complete and final conquest. In this hope, we should have passed the matter in silence, but that it affords a not uncommon specimen of "graduated" wisdom, which it may be useful to study, at the present moment of university reformation; and as such, we recommend it to public attention.

'The Land of Vision.'—A treatise on the geography of Heaven, and the employment of the Blessed is a portentous novelty, not to be paralleled since the days when Ephrem Syrus laboured to ascertain the latitude and longitude of Paradise. The volume is nothing better than a collection of wild imaginings, absurdly urged as arguments in favour of the writer's peculiar opinions.

'Seddon's Address on the Languages and Literature of Asia.'—An excellent essay on the importance of oriental literature, and the national advantages that must result from its cultivation.

'Minor Morals,' by Dr. Bowring. Part 2nd.—The opinion we expressed with respect to the first part of this publication, (*Athenæum*, No. 307,) may be extended to the present with perfect justice. We do not altogether agree with Dr. Bowring in his theory of morals, but this is not the place for working out the question. He has, we readily admit, produced a useful and entertaining little volume. It is illustrated by the shrewd and clever pencil of Cruikshank.

'The Conquest of Florida, under Hernando de Soto,' by T. Irving.—We received an early copy of this work from America, and reported on its merits very fully in the leading article of the 15th August. We have now therefore only to announce, the republication by Mr. Churton.

'The Cabinet; a Series of Sketches, Moral and Literary,' 2 vols.—From the old-fashioned title of this miscellany it is not difficult to divine the nature of its contents. It contains a series of what may be called *dowager* essays, belonging to the school of the second-rate followers of Addison and Hawkesworth and MacKenzie, and having about as much relation to the life of to-day as a collection of sacks and periwigs would have to the toilette of a modern lady or gentleman. The book comes from the Northern Metropolis, and may be considered as a sort of appendix to or imitation of 'The Lounger.' Some pleasant sketches and a solitary smart hit or two may be found in it, but it is twenty-fifty years behind its time.

'The Nursery Gem,' by Henry Congreve.—This tiny volume we had nearly overlooked; we have now looked over it; and (to suit our critique to its dimensions,) we shall simply characterize it, as consisting of that *very common* sense, which is now popularly termed twaddle. Nay; one word more: in page 70, mention is made of "Congreve's Golden Balm," as a remedy in difficult dentition. We hope that this balm is not the *causa causans* of the publication.

'The World. A Poem in six Books.'—Here we have a long-winded song *de omnibus rebus*, &c., on which perhaps the most summary and gentle criticism would be the reply of a diplomatic friend of ours, when pressed to give his opinion on a work of similar merit—"very good print," said he, "and excellent paper." But as our modern Atlas is something of a pretender, declaring valiantly in his preface "that the poetry of the Bible first elicited, then fostered his innate love of song, till at last his overflowing feelings burst forth in a full and rapid tide of poetry," and as he fancies that his shoulders are broad enough to bear the weight of two hemispheres, we have no hesitation in burdening him further with our passing whisper of inquiry, whether some of his verse is not too grand, and some of his images a little queer: as, for instance, when he tells us, (to take a specimen at random) that

The Moon was in her horns, but wore her crown!
A few pages further, we find in an address to Byron (written, we are told, in Mr. Murray's drawing-room) a strophe which commences in this original fashion:

Byron of Song, undying name,
Dear to the Nine, and dear to fame, &c.
We always thought that the World "was as much sinned against as sinning;" we are now sure of it.

'An Essay on the Causes of Dissent in Wales.'—To this essay the royal medal was awarded at an Eisteddod of the London Cambrian Institution in 1831; two editions of it have already been sold, and the third, now before us, contains an abstract from the report of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, which confirms the author's statistical statements. We recommend the work to all who take an interest in the state of the Welsh Church; it is written in a tone of candour and moderation, and betrays no marks of a controversial spirit.

'A Journey in India,' by Victor Jacquemont, 2nd edit.—A neat and remarkably cheap edition of a very amusing work.

'Little Fables for Little Folks; selected for their moral tendency, and rewritten in familiar words, not one of which exceeds two syllables.'—A remarkable pretty collection of fables, illustrated with wood-cuts which would not discredit a work of more pretension.

'Young's Elements of the Theory of Algebraical Equations.'—Mr. Young's treatises on elemen-

tary mathematics are generally known and highly prized, but the work before us is the most valuable that he has yet produced. The researches of Horner, Budan, Furrier, and Sturm, to which we may add the recent investigations of Dr. Jerrard, have completely changed the state of analytic science, or rather have rendered the general theory and solution of Algebraic equations, a new branch of analysis. The development of Sturm's theorem in the eighth chapter of this work, is a satisfactory solution of the Gordian knot of mathematicians—the complete separation and enumeration of the real and imaginary roots of an equation.

'Guide to Jewish History.'—The great fault of this little work is its catechetical form; the matter is excellent.

'The Kingdom of God within us.'—This work is a translation of a portion of Constantine de Brabançon's treatise. The author was a Capuchin preacher, eminently distinguished for piety and learning.

'Dewey's Discourses.'—More ingenious than solid.

'Swell's Sacred Thoughts in Verse.'—The thoughts would be all the better without the verse.

'A Short Method with the Romanists.'—So short as to be inconclusive.

'Dillon's Lectures on the Articles.'—The doctrines are orthodox,—the style simple and pleasing.

ORIGINAL PAPERS

DR. BRINKLEY, LATE BISHOP OF CLOYNE.

Astronomical science has suffered a great loss by the death of the Rev. Dr. Brinkley, Bishop of Cloyne, and formerly Astronomer Royal of Ireland. Dr. Brinkley was educated at Cambridge, and obtained the highest mathematical honours in that University. Dr. Law, brother of the late Lord Ellenborough, and Bishop of Elphin, in Ireland, introduced Mr. Brinkley to the notice of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin, and on the first vacancy he was appointed Professor of Astronomy. He devoted himself earnestly to the duties of his office, and published for the use of the students an elementary treatise on Astronomy, which is generally considered the best introduction to that science in our language. Dr. Brinkley's discovery of the parallax of the fixed stars, which was for a time controverted by Mr. Pond, was the first circumstance that gave him a European reputation, which has been since well supported by his valuable communications to the Philosophical Transactions. As a professor, he was chiefly remarkable for his zeal in searching out and encouraging rising merit; he was one of the first to appreciate the abilities of his successor, Sir William Hamilton, and he laboured zealously to extend his fame. When George IV. visited Ireland, he was so pleased with his reception in Trinity College, that he resolved to bestow the next vacant bishopric on one of its members. Mr. Goulburn (who was at the time looking to the representation of the University of Cambridge,) procured, it is said, the appointment for Professor Brinkley, who appeared to belong to the Dublin University, though really a graduate of Cambridge.

Dr. Brinkley, as Bishop, promoted many exemplary curates, whose labours had been overlooked by his predecessors, and he separated several parishes from his see, to give the inhabitants the benefit of a resident rector. From the time of his elevation, his health gradually declined, and he was forced to abandon scientific pursuits altogether. He has, however, left behind him some valuable mathematical manuscripts, which, we have reason to believe, will be published under the superintendence of Sir William Hamilton.

CAFFRELAND.

[A former letter (see p. 547) announced the termination of the War, and the surrender of Hinza. The present, among the latest arrivals, continues the narrative of events. The mere fact of Hinza's attempt to escape, and of his death, have been announced in extracts from the Cape Journals; but we have here full particulars, with such a sketch of the war, the habits and manners of the people, and the face of the country, as will bring the wild scene vividly before the reader.]

Camp on the Buffalo River,
Site of King William's town, 7th June 1835.

My last communication was from Hinza's country, and ended with the arrival of that paramount Chief of Caffreland in Sir Benjamin D'Urban's camp to sue for peace; the terms agreed on I then also mentioned. The chief and his people, to the number of fifty, remained with us for a fortnight. From the Izolo, a branch of the Somo, (Kei,) we marched to the Dabacasi, westward, and on the 10th of May were again on the Kei. On that day the troops were drawn out in a large square, Hinza and his suite in the midst, in their leopard skin, ox hide, and cloth karosses (mantles). The General then declared, that until His Majesty's pleasure was known, the new boundary of the Cape Colony was to be the river Kei, from its mouth to the source of the White Kei, in the Stormberg mountains, thus including, from the Keiskama to the Kei, an area of 7,000 square miles, equal to Albany and the neutral or ceded territory together.

This proposed accession of territory will cause, perhaps, some discussion in England, but it was absolutely necessary to prevent, by some means like this, a recurrence of the fearful inroad of the Caffres in the beginning of this year. The bush of the Fish River, abounding in game, and of great extent on both banks, formed a most convenient lurking place for the Caffres when intent on mischief; and there is no way of getting rid of this without locating British subjects, either black or white, near and amongst it, and closely watching it. The Keiskama has much bush on it likewise; and this river (the Buffalo) is crossed, at its source, by a range of mountains also covered with forest, and full of fastnesses of a more difficult nature than even the Fish River bush; it seems, therefore, necessary to go on to the Kei, on whose banks are no forests, but open country for miles; besides which, from the trending of the coast to the north, fifty miles of frontier is thus taken off, and the line of defence shortened. Until Sir Benjamin D'Urban saw, with his own eyes, the four rivers, and gained experience, by personal contact with the Caffres, of their irreclaimable and wolfish nature and propensities, he had not the most distant wish to extend the frontier to the Kei; but now all are convinced that we must either give up Albany, Somerset, and go back to the Sunday (or Zondag) river, or else adopt what he proposes. And besides, it may be observed, that all the names of rivers, &c. as far as the Kei (and beyond it) are Hottentot, showing that the Caffres were not the original possessors of the country to the south of this boundary.

At Butterworth, arrangements were made for the Fingoes, living in the most degraded state of bondage with Hinza's Caffres, to escape from their miserable condition, and seek an asylum in the British territory between the Fish and Keiskama rivers, towards the sea. The Fingoes are the remains of tribes broken up and dispersed by Chaka, the cruel Zoola chief; they are blacker than Caffres, not so tall, have thickish lips, and Roman noses, ears with a large orifice pierced in the lobe, and their countenances have a good-natured expression. Like the Caffres, the men wear nothing on their curly heads except tufts of jackals' tails and Caffre cranes' wings in war, a kaross or mantle of ox hide fastened on the left

shoulder, the newa, bead necklaces, brass rings round the wrists, and a brass girdle, an oval five feet shield, and a bundle of eight assagays or javelins. The women wear a small turban of cloth or skin on the head, to enable them to carry loads, a flap of skin, ornamented with beads, over the breasts, a leathern petticoat or kaross, like the Caffre women, with a long flap behind, studded with round and conical buttons. Unlike the Caffres, both men and women labour in the fields, and make excellent servants. 2,500 men, 5,000 women, and 9,500 children, (17,000 souls) have thus already crossed the Keiskama, with 23,000 head of Caffre cattle, carried off by the Fingoes from their late masters, like the Egyptians spoiled of old by the Israelites.

Hinza agreed to give territory to the border chiefs Tyalee, Macomo, Eno, Botma, &c. beyond the Kei; and besides, as Mr. Henry Fynn, now on a mission to Faco, of the Amapondas, writes, there is an extent of 300 miles of most beautiful and altogether uninhabited country, from Natal, south, towards the Bashee, which was depopulated by the monster Chaka, and which might be a new land for the treacherous borderers. Tyalee and the others are still in the bush, within a short distance of us, but Suta, the favourite queen of Gaika, is in our interest, and living in Fort Willshire; she has great influence over the above chiefs, who were subordinate to her late husband, who again was subject to Hinza.

On the important day, the 10th of May, Kreele, Hinza's son, twenty years of age, and Booko, his uncle, being retained as hostages, Col. Smith, with 400 men, marched at Hinza's request back with him into his country, to collect the compensation cattle and horses as before stated. Their first march was to Butterworth, then to the Gunninge. On the 12th Hinza sent on his councillor Umteenee, pretending to stop the cattle which the people were driving out of the way of the detachment. The King, in great spirits, laughing and talking, continued riding with the Colonel, our second in command, and who has proved himself, during the war, most active, indefatigable, and enterprising. Passing through a fine pasture country, the weather clear, and the temperature agreeable, the troops, at 1 p.m. crossed the Gnaabakka on their way to the Bashee, and began ascending a hill.

Hinza, who had been walking, leading his horse, a powerful, long-tailed, bright bay, jumped on the sheep-skin used instead of a saddle, and pushed on to the head of the party. Almost all, except Colonel Smith, had dismounted, and were leading their horses up the steep ascent. The Colonel found Hinza close beside him, and pushing past him on his left side; he told him to stop, and drew a pistol (having previously told Hinza that any attempt to escape before the cattle was collected would prove fatal to him). Hinza urged on his horse, when the Colonel snapped his pistol at him, whilst galloping off, and thirty yards a-head; the Colonel rapidly followed, before all his party, threw the pistol after the King, and hit him on the back of the head with it. Hinza turned round, and smiled in derision. The Colonel snapped, without effect, his second pistol; then, nearing Hinza by the superior speed of his horse, by a desperate effort he seized him by the collar of his leopard skin kaross, and dragged the athletic chief to the ground, after the pursuit of a mile.

Hinza fell, assagays in hand; but gathering himself quickly up, he drew one, and threw it at the Colonel, but it fell short. He then ran down, on foot, to gain the bed of the river. The head of the column—the guides—in the midst of great shouting, mounted, and rushed to cut off his retreat. George Southey, the leader, jumped off his horse, fired, and hit the chief through the lower part of the leg, but he continued to run; Southey discharged his second barrel with effect, under the ribs, Hinza fell

forward, but unexpectedly recovering himself, continued to hurry down the slope and disappeared.

The Colonel, half frantic, thought the chief had escaped, when a shout of triumph was raised. Southey, running and loading, got down to the Gnaabakka, with Lieut. Balfour. They saw the chief concealing himself under a rock, in its bed. Southey looked over it, and Hinza thrust an assagay at him, when he fired, and shot the King through the crown of the head, who fell dead into the water. Southey got his horse, assagay, brass girdle, bracelets, and red and white bead necklace; his kaross floated down the stream. Thus fell Hinza, to whose assistance the British had sent a strong force to repel his Fiani foes in 1828; and who, in return for this, was the prime mover of the Caffre invasion of our territory in 1834-35, the receiver of 50,000 head of colonial cattle and 1,000 horses, and who met the just reward of his treachery, deceit, and ingratitude.

Umteenee, the councillor who had been sent off in the morning on pretence of collecting cattle, was recognized, witnessing the scene from a neighbouring height—another councillor, wearing an oriental turban which I had made, at Col. Smith's request, for Hinza, effected his escape, whilst a third was shot by the Hottentots, at the Krantz or Cliff. Hinza, previous to his death, was seen to tie a knot of *lucky grass* on his necklace, and he led his horse, to ease it, always up and down hill; his attempt at escape was a bold one, and would have succeeded but for the activity and determination of Colonel Smith.

The detachment continued its march, crossed the Bashee at the distance of ten miles from the sea, and found it to run in a full but perfectly fordable stream, unaffected by the tide; the banks were composed of hills and ravines tossed about, as it were, in the wildest and most grotesque manner. Colonel Smith left the tired men and horses under Capt. Ross, of the Cape Mounted Rifles, encamped on the left bank of the Bashee, sent a company of Hottentots, under Capt. Bailie, to scour the country towards the sea, and himself marched on to the Kocha, twenty miles north of the Bashee. It is not generally known that the Caffres beyond the Bashee, and as far as the Umtata, to the distance of between twenty and thirty miles from the sea, were subject to Hinza. From these people Colonel Smith took 3000 head of cattle; but on the banks of the Bashee, in his absence, a serious loss was sustained. Major White, formerly an officer of the Royal Borderers, (25th regiment,) and Quartermaster General of the Burgher Force, against the advice of Capt. Ross and the officers left on the Bashee, went with a corporal and three Hottentots to the top of a hill, a mile and a half from the camp, to survey the country, though Caffres were seen in every direction from the camp. He posted his three Hottentots at a distance from him to look out; in a short time they heard a noise, and running to see what was the matter, saw Major White fall pierced with assagays, a crowd of Caffres round him, and others dispatching the corporal; the three sentries fired and fled down the hill, unable to cope with the enemy, who, it appears, had crept on their victims among the bushes and long grass when their backs were turned. Major White's body was stripped, and his map and instruments carried off. The two bodies were buried under a retired bush in the afternoon. To Albany the loss of Major White is very great; he was one of the most public spirited and intelligent of the settlers of 1819, and stood in high estimation by all who knew him. Fortunately, Major Mitchell, the Surveyor General of the colony, (whose high character for scientific acquirements is well known,) has been attached to the personal staff of the General during the war, and has taken great pains to produce an accurate map of the

parts of Caffraria we have passed through; so that the loss of Major White's observations is not so important as it otherwise would have been.

Capt. Baillie, who went with a company of Hottentots towards the sea, reports the country he passed through to be of the most beautiful and fertile description; the pasture excellent, water abundant, no deficiency of wood, many inhabitants, the huts well built, (of the usual circular form, composed of boughs of trees and thatched with long grass,) much poultry about the kraals, and, above all, large crops of maize and millet, the stalks of the former higher than a man on horseback. The Caffres followed the party to cut off their retreat, and a few of the enemy were shot. Colonel Smith recrossed the Bashee, while thousands of Caffres watched from the hills and by the road-side to cut off stragglers; but he got back safe with his people and cattle to the General's camp, on the Impotshana, five miles west of the Kei, bringing with him 1000 liberated Fingoes, one of whom is called a witch, and about twenty stone weight!

Kreelie, Hinz's successor, was sent back to his people by the General from the Impotshana, whilst Booko, and a councillor, Kinki, have been sent as hostages to Graham's Town: these last made an attempt at escape before they left our camp. Their servant got up and went outside the tent for a particular purpose,—a sentry watching him; the wily Caffre stretched himself and yawned, then, like an arrow from a bow, he darted off over the plain, opening his kaross wide to distract the aim of the musket; three soldiers fired after him, but instead of pursuing with the rest of the guard, they wheeled round on Booko and Kinki in the tent, with bayonets fixed. Booko, pretending to awake from his sleep, inquired what was the matter, having been completely foiled in his intention of creeping out, whilst the attention of the guard was taken up with his servant,—as I have seen practised in India by prisoners. Booko and Kinki were sent to Graham's Town on *led* horses, their ankles tied together under the horses' bellies. Kreelie has already sent in some cattle, and promises to collect the stipulated number as soon as possible.

To secure, in the meantime, the new province of Adelaide, field-works have been constructed, and others are in progress, in various parts of it, principally along the road to Natal. The first, Warden's Post, is a square redoubt of turf, to contain 140 foot and 30 horse; the glacis abatised all round, and an exterior abatis at fifty yards distance, out of assagay range. This is on the Impotshana; and is in the charge of that zealous and most excellent officer Capt. Warden, of the Cape Mounted Rifles, who, a short time ago, went with a party to Nosanis people, the Tambookies, to bring away Messrs. Ayliff, Satchell, and other missionaries, and invite the remnant of the Tambookies, who have always been our allies, to occupy a tract in the new province about the Poorts of the Buffalo. Capnai, a freebooter, once subject to Dingaan, fell on them lately, and routed them with great slaughter.

The second post, Wellington, near the Gonoobee, for 40 foot and 10 horse, is circular, doubly abatised, with a sort of pulpit or raised sentry-box in the centre, on four posts, and twenty feet from the ground. The third post is here, for 1000 men; and to the north and south of it, along the course of the river, are to be two others, one near the Poorts of the Buffalo, the other at Mount Coke. The last will keep up the communication with Fort Willshire.—(See Arrowsmith's most excellent map of the Cape Colony, 1834).

The operations of the second division of the army, under Colonel Somerset, were towards the sea, across the Buffalo, Kakoon, Gonoobee, and Kei. It returned to Graham's Town lately,

after taking charge of the Fingoes, and our and their captured cattle, and locating the Fingoes on the right bank of the Keiskama. The third division, Major Cox's, has been employed about the Debee, Amatoli, and Buffalo range, and is now encamped ten miles from us, under the Poorts. The Major had, a few days ago, a conference with Tyalee and Macomo; the former was in good spirits and fat, the latter was much reduced in condition; they both professed themselves tired of the war, but would not surrender themselves or the colonial cattle still in their possession. The fourth division, of 700 mounted Dutchmen, under Van Wyk, Field Commandant, has been employed scouring the country from the Clipplast to the Bontebok flats, Chumie, &c.; it is now broken up, those composing it being required on their farms, as it is now seed-time.

Various expeditions have lately been sent out from head quarters to harass the enemy; the first, which I accompanied, was under Colonel Smith, with 300 cavalry and the same number of infantry. We marched along a ridge between the Buffalo and Kalumna towards the sea, understanding that the enemy were in great force to the south-east of us. We came upon numerous spoor, or tracks of Caffres and cattle, which we followed rapidly with the cavalry; and on gaining an eminence, saw a body of 1500 men below us. They were immediately charged, but before any mischief happened, they were discovered to be friendly Caffres, under the chiefs Pato, Kama, and Umkye, to the amount of 1000, with 500 Fingoes under Hermann, and 100 Hottentots under Capt. Halifax and Lieut. Moultrie (75th). It was a pleasant thing to see our allies at last in the field, and about to commit themselves, by attacking the invaders of the colony.

At dusk the enemy mustered in great force on the left bank of the Buffalo, and dared us to attack them; we crossed the drift or ford before daylight, but the enemy fled before us; we pursued with the cavalry all day, lost one or two Fingoes, and killed some Caffres, but heavy rain falling, and our horses slipping under us, after crossing the Kakoon and many ravines, we were obliged to bring up at the Kinigha, or Eland's river, from which we saw the Gonoobee deep and full below us. We halted a short time, cooked, and retracing our steps, after a thirty-six or forty miles ride, we reached the mouth of the Buffalo, which I think a steamer may enter. To find a port for the new province is of great importance; probably the Buffalo will supply this desideratum.

Another expedition was undertaken, in the beginning of this month, to drive the enemy from their strongholds about the Line Drift, Keiskama; and the third, and last, was clearing the country between the Chumie and Buffalo, when two of Eno's brothers were shot, 1300 head of cattle, thirty horses, and many goats were captured, and huts and corn were destroyed.

The General is about to return to Graham's Town, leaving Colonel Smith in command here. It has for some time past been the season of winter, and at night the cold is very intense; therm. 40, and the tents stiff with frost. I have not had my clothes off, night or day, except for ablution, since the 26th of March; but there has been little or no sickness amongst us.

I have collected as many plants in flower as I could, and have also geological specimens. I have also noted the quadrupeds, birds, insects, and reptiles we have seen; and hope to send soon an account of the Fingoes, and a report on the mouths of the rivers Cowie, Great Fish, Keiskama, &c. Mr. H. Fynn, my proposed assistant, has not yet returned from his mission to the Amakondas. I intend to give, in another place, a fuller account of our proceedings in Caffreland; and after a short season, proceed towards Delagoa.

J. E. A.

THE EUPHRATES EXPEDITION.

THE extracts which we were last week enabled to give from Colonel Chesney's letters, brought down our information, relating to this expedition, to the 21st July. We have since received letters from Aleppo, dated the 20th June and 23rd July. They do not, of course, contain accounts of any subsequent proceedings, but are full of particulars which cannot fail to interest the public.

"Aleppo, June 20, 1835.

"The arrival of the expedition destined for the Euphrates has created some sensation in this country, both amongst the natives and Europeans, neither of whom can comprehend why Ibrahim Pacha has opposed its progress.

"I am just returned from visiting the encampment of Colonel Chesney and his little band of chosen officers and men, situated on a spot on the right bank of the Euphrates, almost insulated, to which the name of Amelia Depôt has been given.

"On the side of a creek I found an immense tent filled with the various stores and provisions of the expedition, formed out of the awnings and the lower studding-sail of a line-of-battle ship. Parallel to the great store tent I found a line of forges and carpenter's benches, all actively employed in constructing vehicles for the transport, such as trucks to remove the boats upon, sledges for the boilers, and a kind of waggon made out of the keelsons and other beams of the boats. Beyond the space occupied by the smiths and carpenters, I found the iron steamer almost put up and ready to be launched, which will take place in two or three days time, when she will be warped into the creek, widened for this purpose, and there receive her boilers and machinery. The hammers of the rivetters were going merrily, but we soon became accustomed to the sound. Near the steamer, on the stocks, there is a line of bell tents for the workmen and soldiers, with the marquees of the officers, and the observatory tent a little further on towards the beach. The country is flat, and the soil dry. The Delta of the Orontes forms a semicircle of about thirteen miles in diameter, surrounded all the way by high mountains. S.S.W. towers Mount Cassius to a height of 5520 feet: the Beilan mountains are at the opposite side the bay; the semi-arc being filled up by a lower chain, of which Mount St. Simon forms nearly the centre.

"It seems that the Pacha had planned to prevent the expedition from landing; but instead of asking any questions or permission, the landing was commenced and completed in fourteen working days.

"Since that the Pacha has stopped camels and mules, and seems determined not to allow the expedition to reach the destination. It is doubtful whether he acts from motives of his own, or is influenced by other powers, who may be jealous of what must increase our commerce in this country.

"Finding that no animals were to be had, Col. Chesney, instead of being disheartened or giving way, set his men to work to put up the small steamer, purposing, as I believe, to carry all the materials up the Orontes; and by the time this is done, there will be a sufficient number of bullocks collected, by purchase, to carry part of the stores; and when provided with his own animals, the Pacha will scarcely venture to stop an officer sent out by the British government to accomplish a national undertaking; which seems, indeed, to be placed in good hands, as far as perseverance goes at least.

"I shall long remember my visit—the view of the camp—the background of mountains—the variety of works carrying on—and the masses of boilers and machinery, gave me a feeling of pleasure, not unmixed with apprehension, lest they might not be able to effect such an extensive transport as that before them; indeed, I can

hardly conceive how one vessel, the *George Canning*, could have brought all I saw concentrated on the space at Amelia Depôt."

"Aleppo, 23rd July, 1835.

"The Euphrates Expedition is the grand subject at present with every one in this country; and I am now able to tell you, that the determined perseverance of Colonel Chesney has not only overcome the Pacha, and made him appear small in the eyes of the people, but also carried the greater part of the materials and workmen to the Great River, where, I believe, they have commenced putting up the steamers.

"The Pacha consented early last month, and the officers of the expedition were immediately employed in repairing the road at intervals between the Orontes and Bir; which task was accomplished in about a fortnight; and not only were extensive caravans of camels dispatched, but also numerous waggons; sixteen of these vehicles having been constructed, and about twenty-one equipped, by the workmen of the expedition, in the course of a very few weeks.

"I rode about a day and a half to see the passage of part of the expedition, and a most extraordinary sight it was. Carriages had been formed out of the keelsons and other beams of the boats, with wheels under them, so as to carry not only the timber, but also a heavy weight besides; and accordingly you might see a ponderous boiler at one place, moving slowly along on a kind of sledge drawn by some twelve or fourteen bullocks and about twenty men; at another moment appeared one of the eight sections of the *Tigris* steamer carried in the same way; and then a carriage of thirty feet long, made out of the paddle-beams; but the greatest curiosity was the flat boats belonging to the diving-bell, which were moved by means of wheels drawn by bullocks, and assisted by a triangular sail, not unlike that of a Chinese junk.

"The hardest part of the work is between the original depôt at the mouth of the Orontes to Antioch: the country is hilly, and therefore difficult for animals not much accustomed to the collar. I am informed that Col. Chesney did not calculate on encountering this difficulty; he expected, it seems, to get up by the river to Antioch. This part of the trajet is entrusted to Lieut. Cleveland, who spares no toil in getting the ponderous weights up to that place, just beyond which they are embarked either in the flat boats of the expedition, or on some of Blanshard's pontoons, in order to be carried up through the Lake of Antioch to Moorad Pacha, from whence there is a level track of country of about thirty hours. This part of the movement is entrusted to Captain Estcourt, who has given the necessary repairs to the road, so that there is a line of waggons plying between Moorad Pacha and Bir; whilst another goes from the mouth of the Orontes to above Antioch; and these, in addition to the use of camels, mules, and some water carriage up the Orontes, used for timber chiefly.

"I believe the work is actually commenced at Bir; and, from what I have seen, there is no doubt that the boilers, cylinders, &c. will reach, by the time the vessels are ready for them, or before. Several native smiths and carpenters have gone to assist those from England, by doing the easier part of the work; and it is said that Colonel Chesney will work day and night, by reliefs, to finish the vessels in eight or nine weeks' time.

"It is reported here that the Consul, Mr. Wherry, is going on a mission of explanation to the Arab tribes, accompanied by Lieut. Lynch and some persons sent from Bagdad; which step will prevent any hostility from misunderstanding. The station is opposite the town of Bir, called Port William, in compliment to His Majesty."

Meteorological Observations made at the Apartments of the Royal Society, Somerset House, for 37 successive hours, commencing 6 A.M. of the 21st of September, 1835, and ending 6 P.M. of the following day. (Greenwich mean time.)

By Mr. I. D. ROBERTSON, Assistant Secretary, Royal Society.

The hours of Observation.	Barom. corrected.	Atmosph. Ther.	Ext. Ther.	Rain in inches.	Wind.	REMARKS.
6, A.M.	29.887	60.7	55.7		S	Cloudy—light wind.
7, ..	29.901	61.2	56.8		..	Light ditto.
8, ..	29.881	61.6	57.9		..	Light fog and wind.
9, ..	29.897	62.2	59.5		..	Overcast—very light rain and wind.
10, ..	29.905	62.6	60.2		SE	Light continued rain and wind.
11, ..	29.879	62.8	59.7		ESE	Light ditto ditto ditto.
12, ..	29.885	63.2	58.4	.075	E	Light ditto ditto ditto.
1, P.M.	29.857	63.3	57.6	.030	SE var.	Light ditto ditto ditto.
2, ..	29.853	62.8	56.9		E	Light ditto ditto ditto.
3, ..	29.816	62.6	56.3	.125	..	Light ditto ditto ditto.
4, ..	29.812	62.2	55.3		..	Light ditto ditto ditto.
5, ..	29.810	61.7	55.2	.080	..	Light ditto ditto ditto.
6, ..	29.784	61.3	54.7		..	Light ditto ditto ditto.
7, ..	29.788	60.8	54.6		..	Light wind and rain.
8, ..	29.792	60.7	55.2		..	Light wind.
9, ..	29.788	60.8	55.6	.030	..	Light ditto ditto ditto.
10, ..	29.780	61.3	55.6		..	Light ditto ditto ditto.
11, ..	29.776	61.2	55.4		..	Light ditto ditto ditto.
12, ..	29.764	61.0	55.1		..	Light ditto ditto ditto.
1, A.M.	29.740	60.6	55.8		..	Light ditto ditto ditto.
2, ..	29.722	60.6	56.2		..	Light ditto ditto ditto.
3, ..	29.701	60.8	56.6		..	Light ditto ditto ditto.
4, ..	29.673	60.8	57.0		..	Light ditto ditto ditto.
5, ..	29.641	60.8	57.8		..	Light ditto ditto ditto.
6, ..	29.614	61.3	58.8		..	Light Deposition—light wind.
7, ..	29.598	61.6	60.2		..	Fine and cloudless—light wind.
8, ..	29.590	62.8	62.4		SE var.	Fine—light clouds and wind.
9, ..	29.572	64.3	64.4		E	Light Nearly cloudless—light brisk wind.
10, ..	29.567	64.8	66.2		SE var.	Light Light clouds and brisk wind.
11, ..	29.552	65.1	67.3		SE	Light ditto ditto ditto.
12, ..	29.538	65.6	68.3		ESE	Light ditto ditto ditto.
1, P.M.	29.530	66.0	68.2		SE	Light ditto ditto ditto.
2, ..	29.526	66.3	67.7		SE var.	Cloudy—light brisk wind.
3, ..	29.501	66.4	68.0		NE var.	Light High wind.
4, ..	29.499	66.4	68.2		S var.	Light ditto ditto ditto.
5, ..	29.507	66.0	68.7		NE var.	Overcast ditto ditto ditto.
6, ..	29.509	66.2	68.7		SE var.	Light ditto ditto ditto.
20.715	62.7	59.8	.340			

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP ON LITERATURE AND ART.

WE have noticed in the *grave* part of our paper, the letter-press of the *Oriental Annual* for the coming year; and pronounced it to be at least equal in interest and variety to the illustrative prose of former volumes: here are the plates, of which as much at least may be said by strict justice, and more might be added, without insincerity, by the courtesy of good-will. Mr. Daniell has been fortunate in his engravers: the plates by Brandard are excellent; as also the two to which Pye's name appears; the last of these, 'The Entrance to the Caves of Elephantia,' is an impressive and beautiful landscape, highly finished; 'Muscat,' the frontispiece, is sunbright and glowing; but are not the masts of the ship disproportionately tall? For the rest, we have a 'Tiger Hunt,' for the sportsman; for the architect, 'The Choultry of Trimal Naig at Lahore,' an imposing building; the figure of the Hindoo woman is graceful and pleasing, and the other subjects are new and curious; in particular, the cockatoo-like monkey, sitting at the foot of his perch, and punishing the audacious crows who disturbed his meditations, by selecting the boldest, and plucking it clean, in which debased state, we are told, its companions presently pecked it to death.

After all, Paganini is not dead. Who shall henceforth put trust in newspapers? There is one comfort, however, so far as we are concerned, that, reversing the case of Sir Condy Rackrent, who, it will be remembered, was sadly displeased at the want of proper respect shown to his memory at his sham funeral, this modern Orpheus may see, with how great and honest a sorrow we should regard the loss of so bright a star from the hemisphere of music. Would not his own dirge be an admirable subject for one of his fantastic but unrivalled sonatas!

It appears, that after an interval of between 50 and 60 years, the third and concluding volume of Niebuhr's 'Oriental Travels,' is about to ap-

pear in Denmark; and as few persons now living can recollect the intense interest with which the appearance of the first and second volumes was greeted in the years 1774-8, it may be as well to inform the generations of readers that have subsequently arisen of the fact, as well as of the causes which have withheld the third volume, till later travels have much cooled the interest that can be taken in the information it contains. All the copper-plates prepared for the third volume were destroyed in the great fire of Copenhagen, in 1795; and the disheartened author seems to have neglected the completion of a volume, that required such a repetition of labour and expense. His more celebrated son meant to complete and publish it, but was diverted from the filial task by the engrossing occupation of his 'Roman History.' Now the family have transferred the, we fear, obsolete MSS. to the hands of the traveller's old friend, Counsellor Gloyer, and of Dr. J. Olshausen, Professor of Oriental languages at the University of Kiel.

On looking over the German papers, we have learned, and with satisfaction, that, for the last dozen years, Gratz, in Styria, has rejoined in a literary society, founded by the Archduke John, who usually resides in that town, and that the said society, entitled the Joanneum, publishes periodically the result of its labours, statistical, mineralogical, scientific, antiquarian, descriptive, &c., all however national. We confess we had not suspected that the March of Intellect had yet penetrated into the Austrian provincial towns.

We apprehend that Germany is the only country under the sun, in which a dry catalogue can afford amusement. But could we refuse to smile when amidst a list of new novels, we meet with 'The Spirit of German Architecture, a romance.' We must however soften, if not, explain the incongruity, by stating that this romance, or novel, is an imaginary life of Erwin von Steinbach, the architect of the Strasburg Minster.

MISCELLANEA

Mr. Grant, of Corrymory.—This venerable gentleman, the father of the Scottish bar, died at Lakefield, Glen Urquhart, in this county. He was in his 93rd year. He was author of a work on 'The Origin of the Gael,' and also wrote treatises on the origin of language and society. He was early distinguished for his liberal political principles, and associated with Henry Erskine and other eminent men of that day, and subsequently with Sir James Mackintosh, Mr. Horner, &c. He retained his faculties to the last, and from the extent and variety of his attainments, was a delightful companion.—*Inverness Courier.*

Russian History.—In consequence of the dearth of historical records, the Russian government has given orders to publish every document that can be found, which will bear upon the history of the country.

Exhibition of the Products of Russian Industry at St. Petersburg.—The late Exhibition is said to have been in every respect superior to that of 1829. From the proof it afforded of the rapid development and increase of home manufactures, it is inferred, that the importation into Russia of foreign productions, is yearly diminishing. In the first Exhibition (that of 1829), there were but 4400 articles, sent by 326 manufacturers, whilst in the late Exhibition, there were 9320 articles, furnished from 616 establishments.

Theatrical Monopoly.—It appears, from the Paris papers, that the dramatic monopoly, which has drawn so much odium upon the patent theatres in England, is about to be introduced into France. By a recent regulation, comedy and tragedy can now only be played at the Théâtre Français; dramas and melo-dramas exclusively at the Porte St. Martin, the Ambigu-Comique, and the Gaité, which theatres are interdicted from representing vaudevilles, or musical pieces. The greatest latitude appears to be given to Franconi's theatre, the Cirque Olympique, which is allowed to play every description of piece, provided that horses are introduced.

Nass-red-dyn, the Turkish Esop (see *Athenæum*, No. 374), wishing to propitiate the conquering Tamerlane, proposed to carry him some fruit. "Hold," said he, "two heads are better than one; I will ask my wife whether I had better carry quinces or figs." His wife replied, "Quinces will please him best, because they are larger and finer." "However useful the advice of others may be," rejoined Nass-red-dyn, "it is never well to follow that of a woman; I am determined to take figs." When he arrived in the camp, Tamerlane amused himself by throwing the figs at his bald head. At every blow Nass-red-dyn exclaimed, "God be praised." Tamerlane inquired what he meant. "I am thanking God that I did not follow my wife's advice," replied Nass-red-dyn, "for if I had brought quinces instead of figs I should certainly have a broken head."—*Mrs. Child's Condition of Women.*

Strasbourg.—A violent storm has greatly injured the magnificent cathedral of Strasbourg. Columns were shattered, and masses of stone torn off by the lightning, fragments of which struck the neighbouring houses, and caused considerable damage. The cost of the necessary repairs is estimated at 750*l.* sterling. A committee has long been appointed, to ascertain the propriety of erecting a conductor to this beautiful edifice, which has been so often injured in the same manner, and now probably their deliberations will be conclusive.

Fossil Ferns.—As it is very rare to find a fossil fern, the mere impression, generally speaking, being all that remains, a M. Gœpper has taken the impression of a number of recent ferns, in order by comparison, to try and ascertain the fossil species with greater facility. By

this method, M. Gœpper has been able to recognize more than thirty species, which are analogous to those of the present day.

Roman Measure.—A bronze rule having been found, while digging in the forest of Maulevrier, near Caudebec, MM. Jomard and Walckenaer have reported to the Académie des Inscriptions, that it is a Roman foot rule, on which are marked the various measures in use in the years 253 to 268 of the Roman Empire.

Education in Ireland.—From the returns made by the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland to the orders of the House of Commons, it appears that, in the 789 schools to which the Board have granted aid, the number of scholars is 107,042; that the grants for building (exclusive of fittings-up) have amounted to somewhat less than 3000*l.*, the rest being for half-price for requisites and for salaries, varying from 3*l.* to 60*l.* (most being from 8*l.* to 10*l.*), except the male and female model schools, and the mendicity school, Dublin, where the grants for salary were 198*l.*, 130*l.*, and 100*l.*—*The Times.*

Gold Veins in North Carolina.—At a meeting of the Sheffield Literary and Philosophical Society, Dr. Longstaff, who, during the last twelve months, has been out as the agent of a company of British mine adventurers, to investigate the gold veins of North Carolina, stated that the gold region stretches from the shores of the Atlantic, in the direction of Carolina, right away through the country towards the Pacific Ocean; and that, judging from appearances, this immense tract promises to yield supplies such as have not been equalled by the most famous gold countries of antiquity. The precious metal is generally found in a matrix of quartz, and in veins, often running in the direction of N.E. and S.W., there being generally one leading vein, and on each side a parallel satellite. In some cases, rich branches pass off at right angles; or, in others the ore is ramified in every way. It is sometimes enveloped in a rake of talcose slate, passing through the auriferous quartz; in other instances, disseminated in minute particles through oxide of iron; and contrary to what might have been supposed, judging from the effect of other metals, the sulphuret of iron, or martial pyrites, usually indicates a rich locality. The proportions of the precious metal to the quartz, or other matrix, are amazingly great, the minimum yield of the ore affording a large profit upon the capital invested; while some of the richer sorts (of which Dr. L. laid specimens on the table) gave almost incredible results.—*Leeds Merc.*

Paint.—To get rid of the smell of oil paint, plunge a handful of hay into a pail full of water, and let it stand in the room newly painted.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. D. M.—J. D. received. There is great good sense and good feeling in the suggestion of 'Poor and Simple,' but it is not in our province to work it out. Such ought to have been the object of the Diffusion Society.

T. H. received. The publisher of the *Athenæum* will give one shilling each for Nos. 167, 168, 169. He is also willing to purchase the volumes for 1828, 1829, or single numbers of those years.

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JOHN L. DONALDSON, } Hon. Secretaries.
JOHN GOLDICUTT,
43, King-street, Covent-garden,
21st Sept. 1835.

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